

8/102 ■ F Postwar Activities

1919-1933

102
Norfolk, Virginia,
October 6, 1919.

Mr. President, Brothers and Sisters, Officers, Members and
Friends:

Handwritten: In offering the pages of this report, I hope that the reader will remember that I just stated that the composition, although retaining the form of an address, has become in reality an essay and as such, I hope that it is not too long in proportion to the importance of its subject. That subject is very important when we consider it as an element of the high and various civilization which has become the proud inheritance and responsible talent of the vast family composed of all the advanced nations. The very word by which I have the pleasure of addressing you will form the subject of the address which in the spirit of great kindness you have called upon me, unknown to you as I am, to deliver on this festive day. I tender you my cordial thanks for this proof of your regard, but in so doing I must remind you that I find difficulties of no common character surrounding me at this moment. My feet tread for the first time upon the soil of your sylvan state; I am unacquainted with what may be peculiar to your society or the characteristics of your institution. I thus may stand in danger of being myself with you in unprofitable generalities. Let me beg of you therefore to bear with me should you consider my subject not sufficiently characteristic for this particular occasion for which I have selected for the character of the gentlemen. It appeared to me that an inquiry into the proposition as to what is the true character of the gentlemen and what rules of actions do we derive from the results of this inquiry might be made useful and instructive to young men who, in receiving liberal education are preparing themselves for the most important walks of practical life, or the spheres of literature and public action.

Young as you are, you must have observed that the term, gentlemen is used in common intercourse and indeed unmeaningly or as a term merely indicating that we do not mean the opposite sex, but that the word has also come to designate, in a direct and positive manner, a character of high and even lofty attributes ~~diff~~ and at the same time is employed on occasions apparently differing in their nature. We have in sub, also in city nearly a hundred teachers and principals for colored schools. Now as far as I know and lots more white than colored; ~~xxxxxx~~ through which much improvement is being made to white and colored; all are working in union together. I would like for it to be considered that more schools are much needed for many of our children now have no place to go to school. Our men responded to the call to go in service for the United States; they also worked with the red cross and will continue to do so in times of peace. The Churches of both white and colored are doing well; they seem to be in union as far as I know.

We have the white to preach for the colored and the colored for the white; I trust they will continue in union.

The friction of labor is getting along fairly well as far as I know, only the high cost of living is a hard factor to combat. The carpenters are getting their price as far as I know only the laborers--I think a space should be left open for all-- which space is 6, 8, & 10 on account of the produce steadily rising. Gentlemen. I do think that labor should rise as well as produce. Also the one-man car can be cut out if you have one hundred one-man cars, that means that one hundred men are cut off from their jobs. Many of these men have families to take care also of and can ill afford to lose their jobs. The company has also gone up on street car fares, so I think that space should be left open for labor as well as the company for we all have to live. At 35 and 40 cents an hour nor a pound of meat. If a man has eight in one family the high cost of living, rent and clothing will take all his pay. The space is to be left open for to meet demands, our sea port is called the greatest sea port in the world, so it is stated from the daily papers of this port. All are in union so far as I know. The white and colored all meet together. I have answered all necessary questions of labor. All other reports were to the effect that the unions were doing well.

From The Labor Board.

J. Robinson

628 Church St.

Please answer at once.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of the Secretary
WASHINGTON

[Handwritten signature]
102

The Secretary of Labor Continues Negro Economics

The Office of the Director of Negro Economics has just released the following correspondence which shows the value set upon the service by the Secretary of Labor and some of the reasons for his continuance of the service. On July 1 he wrote Dr. Haynes, the Director of Negro Economics, as follows:

July 1, 1919.

Dr. George E. Haynes,
Director of Negro Economics,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Haynes:

So important do I consider the information, advice, and departmental aid furnished through your work as Director of Negro Economics, a war service of the Department of Labor, which I created in order to harmonize the labor relations of white workers, Negro workers and white employers, and thereby to promote the welfare of all wage-earners in the United States, that I hereby request you to continue the service.

Owing to our failure to get the appropriations asked for from Congress, it will be necessary for you to continue without the field staff that would enable you to gather information and give assistance more promptly and fully. But I need your assistance in this work of conciliation and will make such provision for retaining it as is possible.

I hope that the white and colored citizens, both North and South, who have so heartily and beneficially cooperated with you, will continue their cooperation under the difficult circumstances in which the Department is involved due to curtailed funds. By correspondence with such citizens, you may enable the Department of Labor to continue in some degree the valuable service you have rendered in dealing with the delicate and difficult problems touching Negro labor, and thus to serve employers and workers of both races and all sections.

Let me supplement this request with the most emphatic assurances of my appreciation of your personal qualities as well as the value of your work.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) W. B. WILSON,

Secretary.

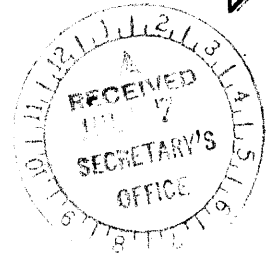
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

July 7, 1919.

Hon. W. B. Wilson,
Secretary of Labor,
Washington, D. C.



My dear Mr. Secretary:

Your letter requesting me to continue my work as Director of Negro Economics is received with much appreciation and I accede to your request to continue the service. I shall do all I can, as in the past, to make the work of practical value to you in your great effort to carry out the purpose of the Department with reference to Negro wage-earners and your far-reaching work of conciliation in the difficult questions arising from the relations of white workers, Negro workers and employers.

It will be exceedingly difficult to render this service without any field assistants, especially in connection with the placement of Negro workers, so that I trust in the near future you will be able to make some provision for field assistants.

In undertaking the continuance of the service with you, let me assure you of my hearty appreciation of your liberal viewpoint and broad American spirit in dealing with all the questions that have come before you in this connection.

Yours respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George E. Haynes".

Director of Negro Economics.

Handwritten initials or a signature at the bottom of the page, possibly "H. W. Wilson".

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

WASHINGTON

IN ANSWERING REFER TO

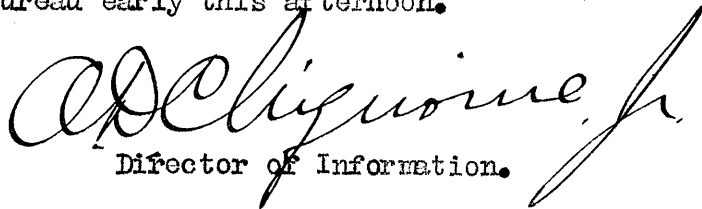
No.

June 20.

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. HAYNES:

Enclosed is a suggested statement for the Secretary.

If possible, can you get his approval within the next hour or two so that it may be released and sent to the newspapers and the Associated Press through the Information and Education Service. I suggest that a copy be sent to the Associated Press with a note from the Secretary's office or Mr. Reid, calling attention to the necessity of correcting the false impression that has arisen and asking them to carry it tonight. The Atlanta Constitution will help disseminate it, but I must send a copy to its Washington bureau early this afternoon.


Director of Information.

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
JUN 20 1919

Director of Negro Economics

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

102

February 23, 1921.

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY POST.

Referring to the memorandum of February 19, 1921, hereunder, I desire the Division of Negro Economics to be continued. The deficiency appropriation for conciliation makes it possible to place the Director in that service where the Division properly belongs. I do not think it necessary at this time to include him in the classified service.

It is, therefore, directed that Mr. Haynes be appointed a Commissioner of Conciliation at the ^{per diem} rate of \$3,500 per annum, and for Departmental purposes he will ^{to} continually be known as Director of Negro Economics. So far as his assistants are concerned, it will be well to take the matter up with the bureaus from which they are detailed and arrange for a continuance of the detail.

W. B. Wilson
Secretary.

*Noted & transmitted
to Chief Clerk for
execution of
directions
Feb 23/21 S. J. P.*

WBW-G

*2/23/21
Attended to
SJS*

Index

July 9, 1919.

Handwritten notes:
16
183
✓

Honorable Walker D. Hines
Director General
U.S. Railroad Administration
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hines:

Attorney Harry E. Davis of Cleveland, Ohio, has made complaint to my office as follows:

"I have just had called to my attention, a matter which I believe concerns your department. Rev. H.G. Bailey, pastor of the Antioch Baptist Church of this city, today applied to the U.S. Railway Administration for a ticket from Madison, Alabama to Cleveland. He desired to send this ticket to his daughter, Mrs. Lottie R. Beale at Madison, Alabama, so she could return to Cleveland which was her former residence.

"The clerk at the ticket office absolutely refused to sell Rev. Bailey such a ticket, claiming that the Director General had issued an order stopping that practice on the ground that it is aiding colored labor to emigrate from the South.

"Mrs. Beale is not a working woman and is returning home because of the death of her husband. While in Cleveland she taught in the public schools here. This information was given to the ticket agent, but he absolutely refused to sell a ticket."

Will you kindly give this complaint attention and inform me of such action as you take?

Yours very truly,

G. C. H.

COPIED BY W. E. ALBSON
SECRETARY

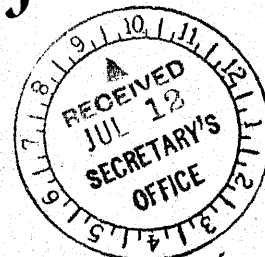
Vertical handwritten note:
Reply to Mrs. Lottie Beale

PHONE CALUMET 6297

The Negro Fellowship League

IDA B. WELLS-BARNETT, PRESIDENT

3005 So. State Street
CHICAGO



July 10, 1919. ✓

Hon. W. B. Wilson, Sec. of Labor,
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

As president of the Negro Fellowship League I write to express our appreciation of your action in retaining Dr. George E. Haynes as one of your assistants. The Negro race feels that you have recognized our claim to representation in all departments of our democracy. We certainly regret that congress failed in its appropriations all the more that in spite of this fact you have retained a representative of our race on your staff.

Again thanking you, we are

Very truly yours,

President *I. B. Barnett*.....

Negro Fellowship League.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

July 11, 1919.

C o p y

Mr. Charles E. Hall,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hall:

I am authorized by the Secretary to assure you that, on your Civil Service status and record of this Department since transfer from the Department of Commerce, provision will be made for your continuance in the service of this Department.

The Secretary says it may be a few days before he can make the arrangement and that he is not positive just what division of the Department you will be in, but he assures you of a place.

In this connection I am expressing the hope that it may be so arranged that you can continue the most capable and loyal service you have heretofore given in connection with this office.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) George E. Haynes,

Director of Negro Economics.

H/MLC

OK
LFP
July 11/19

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

July 11, 1919.

G. D. E.

Mr. William Jennifer,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr.

I am authorized by the Secretary to assure you that, on your Civil Service status and record of this Department since transfer from the Department of Commerce, provision will be made for your continuance in the service of this Department.

The Secretary says it may be a few days before he can make the arrangement and that he is not positive just what division of the Department you will be in, but he assures you of a place.

In this connection I am expressing the hope that it may be so arranged that you can continue the most capable and loyal service you have heretofore given in connection with this office.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) George E. Haynes,

Director of Negro Economics.

H/MLC

OK
LFP
July 11/19

102-12
July 12, 1919.

Index
Miss Ida B. Wells-Barnett, President,
The Negro Fellowship League,
3005 So. State Street,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Madam:

I am directed by Secretary Wilson to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, and to thank you for your kindly expressions, on behalf of the Negro Fellowship League, with regard to retention of the services of Dr. George E. Haynes within this Department.

Very truly yours,

EXACT COPY AS SIGNED BY EDW. S. MCGEE,
MAILED 7/12/19 BY [Signature]
Private Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mr. Post:

This was referred
from Secretary's office but
no reply seems advisable

Galt

7/10/19

~~I do not think
ack would be
in no way
your money
help we are
this 12/19~~

NO. 204
Ed. 6-27-18-300,000

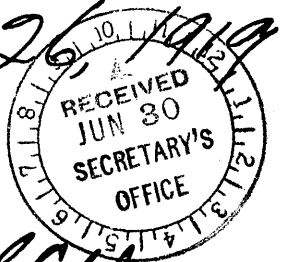
Dr. Haynes
for
files



St. Petersburg, Fla.

June 26, 1919
U.S. Dept. Labor

U. S. Wilson, Secy.
Washington D.C.



Messrs:

Advs. - especially in the
St. Petersburg Times - Always brings
result. Your Col. Gen. = in

1 mo. of Organized
St. Petersburg Negro Civic League
object, School extension Term 8 mo.
(now six) 274 registered, poll
tax paid members.

Local (white) Board Trade Amate
to Co-operative effort with same.
2nd Organized Women's Labor Union
to work in full accord and har-
mony with above.

I am devoting my Advs. effort
wholly to Natl Advs. (localised)

These two bodies, Negro, are
receptive and thro careful
handling will prove one of the
truly great factors in business
reconstruction in the South.

Last week they listened to and
endorsed "Truth" as represented
by A.A.C.P. of which body I
am a Sustaining Member.

Women's organization are per-
siously studying and discussing
the City Charter (D.H.C.) and

am governing Gen'l Elections

These Negroes have been the
butt for all the political

patifoggers and obstructionists
local, as well as the racials
in all lines of business.

This move of the Government
will I believe solve, more ef-
fectively than thro the Church
the problem of "the neglected
of the House of the Lord; thro
it's Civic Evangelism

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

JUN 30 1919

Director of Negro Economics

the
Light thro
Twentieth Century

Very truly,

Carastank & Plectman.
Oce Marked Copy
Times

Am using with this Musical
Advs. series I to XX "Hark the Herald Angels"
Records Evan Williams "Open the Gates
of the Temple" John McCormack - "I hear
You calling Me" Machine New Edison

July 14, 1919.

Miss Clara Hanks Blackman
St. Petersburg Times
St. Petersburg, Florida.

Dear Miss Blackman:

Your letter of June 26 describing the advertising you have been carrying on in your paper in response to the request of the Department in its efforts to stimulate business has been received and I am writing to thank you for the cooperation you have thus given in this campaign.

Yours respectfully,

Asst. Secretary.

C.

7/14/19
-24c

July 31, 1919.

Memorandum:

From: The Director of Negro Economics
To: The Secretary

THROUGH THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

I ask the indulgence of the Secretary in calling his attention to the accompanying request of Messrs. Charles E. Hall and William Jennifer, who were ordered by you to be transferred to the Immigration Service. You instructed that they be placed upon the Immigration roll, section 24, at the same salary they were given when transferred from the Department of Commerce. You recall that at the time you gave the directions we did not know the amount of this salary. I am sending in their request in the thought that you might be willing to grant it under the circumstances.

I have examined their records and it appears that these men were transferred in October, 1916, nearly three years ago, at \$1200 per annum. They have, however, lost the advantages that would have accrued to them in the Department of Commerce, as I have learned from that Department that a number of the men who were working along with these men at that time have later been considerably increased to basic salaries of \$1500 and above, with the bonus in addition. With the standing and record these men had in that Department they would have undoubtedly shared to some extent in these benefits.

In the second place, if they have to start now on \$1200 even with the addition of \$240 bonus, they would not have a salary on which to meet necessary living expenses, as both of them are men with families. Their rating and efficiency are beyond question. I respectfully advise, therefore, that if the Secretary can see his way clear to do so that he approve the requests that their transfers to the Immigration Service, under Section 24, be at basic salaries of \$1500 per annum.

Respectfully submitted,

Director of Negro Economics.

For White Union Men to

The New Majority
Chicago 8/2/19
Read

Let any white union worker who has ever been on strike where gunmen or machine guns have been brought in and turned on him and his fellows search his memory and recall how he felt. In this critical moment let every union man remember the tactics of the boss in a strike, when he tries by shooting to terrorize striking workers into violence to protect themselves.

Well, that is how the negroes feel. They are panic-stricken over the prospect of being killed.

A heavy responsibility rests on the white portion of the community to stop assaults on negroes by white men. Violence against them is not the way to solve the vexed race problem.

This responsibility rests particularly heavy upon the white men and women of organized labor—not because they had anything to do with starting the present trouble, but because of their advantageous position to help end it. Right now it is going to be decided whether the colored workers are to continue to come into the labor movement or whether they are going to feel that they have been abandoned by it and lose confidence in it.

It is a critical time for Chicago.

It is a critical time for organized labor.

All the influence of the unions should be exerted on the community to protect colored fellow workers from the unreasoning frenzy of race prejudice. Indications of the past have been that organized labor has gone farther in eliminating race hatred than any other class. It is up against the acid test now to show whether this is so.

THE NEW MAJORITY

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT

166 West Washington Street, Chicago

Owned and Controlled by the

Chicago Federation of Labor and its affiliated unions in
the interests of organized labor

Official Organ of the Labor Party of Illinois and the
Labor Party of Cook County

Annual Subscription\$2.00
Single Copies5 cents

BUNDLE ORDERS

Per Hundred\$4.00

To every dues paying member of The Labor Party, the cost
being included in the party dues of \$4 per year, payable
quarterly.

Editorial Rooms and Business Office: Room 609

ROBERT M. BUCK, Editor

PHONE MAIN 2522

Entered as second class matter December 21, 1918, at the
postoffice at Chicago, Ill.



Vol. 2

CHICAGO, AUGUST 2, 1919

No. 5

DEFUNCT "PATRIOTIC" TWADDLE

Now that its employes are organized, the Harvester trust refuses to recognize them. This should convince anyone that the company was not on the square with its employes when it imposed its "industrial council" upon them.

When its employes were organized into an "industrial council" bossed by the company officials, so that their representatives could be easily cowed, the company was for collective bargaining. As soon as its employes organized themselves in their own way so that they could bargain democratically with un-intimidated representatives, the company would have nothing to do with collective bargaining.

When the newly organized men presented their demands through their committee, the company officials pulled the old, ignorant stuff of calling un-American the action of their employes in organizing to defend their rights.

The Tribune, kept newspaper of the Harvester trust, in a signed story by the council-chamber - lounge - lizard-industrial-expert, Arthur M. Evans, with supercilious air, stated the strikers' committee was composed of "former" employes and that of the six "only two were American citizens."

ARGO

With race trouble gripping Chicago the whirlwind has come to roost on the fence of the Corn Products Refining Company. The enthusiastic idiots who are gleefully staging murder of strikers in fighting their company's battle with its men whom it should be protecting and aiding, the colored strikebreakers in the plant were armed with revolvers and some with rifles.

Then came the race troubles and the white deputy sheriffs and other gunmen guards threatened to quite unless the colored strikebreakers were disarmed. To attempt to disarm the latter would be to start trouble, and as this issue of the paper goes to press the executives of the plant are between the devil and the deep sea to keep from exploding the dynamite they recklessly strewed around their own habitation.

August 8, 1919.

Dr. George E. Haynes,
Director of Negro Economics,
Wabash Avenue Y. M. C. A.,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Dr. Haynes:-

I note in this morning's paper that Governor Lowder of Illinois has announced that he is about to appoint a Race Commission consisting of representatives of various interests. Might it not be a good thing for you to try to see the Governor and suggest the appointment of some one who has a contact with the Department. Wiley Mills in the Conway Building can probably advise you as to persons.

Sincerely,

HR/W

Hugh Reid.

August 11, 1919.

Hon. Frank E. Doremus, M.C.
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Doremus:

I am writing to acknowledge your letter of July 8 to the Secretary of Labor in which you express the hope that Mr. William Jennifer may be restored to the field work he was doing for the Department in your State.

The Department very much regretted the necessity, due to the lack of funds, for dispensing with Mr. Jennifer's work and has done all that financial circumstances permit to retain his services. He is now at work in the Office of the Secretary. This delay in reply is due to our inability to adjust the matter at an earlier date.

Respectfully yours,

Assistant Secretary.

P/c

August 11, 1919.

Hon. Hatton W. Summers, M.C.
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Summers:

I am writing to acknowledge your letter of July 8 to the Secretary of Labor in which you express the hope that Mr. William Jennifer may be restored to the field work he was doing for the Department in the State of Michigan.

The Department very much regretted the necessity, due to the lack of funds, for dispensing with Mr. Jennifer's work and has done all that financial circumstances permit to retain his services. He is now at work in the Office of the Secretary. This delay in reply is due to our inability to adjust the matter at an earlier date.

Respectfully yours,

Assistant Secretary.

P/O

August 23, 1919.

Memorandum

To: the Secretary

From: the Assistant Secretary

Subject: Transfer of Messrs. Jennifer and Hall from the Bureau of Immigration Service to the U.S. Employment Service.

During the absence of the Secretary two recommendations came to me, one from the Assistant Director General of the Employment Service and the other from the Commissioner General of Immigration, both dated August 20. The effect of these recommendations when approved by the Department is to transfer William Jennifer and Charles E. Hall from the Immigration Service to the U.S. Employment Service at a salary of \$1200 each, which as I am orally informed is to be increased to \$1500 when the transfer shall have become complete.

As the arrangement for these transfers did not come to my attention until the above named recommendations were presented to me for Departmental approval, I have no other knowledge of their having had your approval than the opening words of the Commissioner General's recommendation, namely: "Pursuant to the instructions of the Secretary". Knowing, however, from my connection with the work of the Director of Negro Economics that such transfers might involve the Department in serious complications with reference to race problems mingled with labor problems I withheld approval of the aforesaid recommendations until I could confer with the Director of Negro Economics who was at the time on his way back from an investigation in Chicago and Detroit.

Having conferred with the Director of Negro Economics today I am of the opinion that the transfers in question should be immediately followed by a detail of the transferees to the Office of the Secretary for service under the Director of Negro Economics.

Therefore in signing the recommendations of the Director General and the Assistant Director General, I have done so with the inference on my own part that nothing else was intended by you in reference to these transfers than to shift the transferees from one salary roll to another.

In view of the probable seriousness of questions involved I respectfully recommend a conference at your earliest convenience with Mr. Abercrombie and the Director of Negro Economics.

Louis F. Post
Assistant Secretary.

L.F.P.

negro economics

The American Missionary Association

AUGUSTUS F. BEARD, D. D., *Honorary Secretary and Editor*
GEORGE L. CADY, D. D., { *Corresponding*
J. E. McAFEE, { *Secretaries*
IRVING C. GAYLORD, *Treasurer*
SAMUEL LANE LOOMIS, D. D., { *Associate*
REV. RODNEY W. ROUNDY, { *Secretaries*
LURA BEAM,
Assistant Superintendent of Education

287 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK
Telephone, GRAMERCY, 3622

New York, August 27, 1919.



Secretary W. D. Wilson,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Wilson:

It certainly had been a great satisfaction to this Association to know of the splendidly constructive work which Dr. George E. Haynes, Director of Negro Economics, has done in your department. We are glad indeed to read your estimate of the success of his services ^{W/E} on July 1, and to express to you the hope that his work may continue to have as large a scope as possible at this important epoch in the development of the Negro race.

In behalf of the Association, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Rodney W. Roundy
Associate Secretary.

RWR-LW.



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Howard University

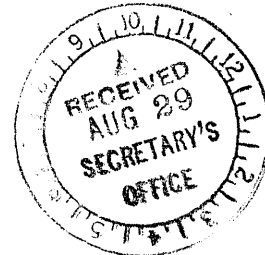
Washington, D. C.

August
28
1919

J. STANLEY DURKEE, A. M., Ph. D.,
President

EMMETT J. SCOTT, A. M., LL. D.,
Secretary-Treasurer

8
10 ✓



Honorable W. B. Wilson,
Secretary of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

I beg to bring to your attention the following resolution adopted at the recent Annual Meeting of the National Negro Business League, held in Saint Louis, Missouri, August 13, 14 and 15, 1919:

"WHEREAS, the Department of Labor, following the wise and generous judgment of The Honorable W. B. Wilson, The Secretary of Labor, - created in said Department a BUREAU OF NEGRO ECONOMICS, with Dr. George E. Haynes, as Director of said Bureau, and

"WHEREAS, under the direction of Dr. George E. Haynes said BUREAU OF NEGRO ECONOMICS has proved to be of great practical help to Our Country and our Race,

"BE IT RESOLVED, That the National Negro Business League hereby endorses and urges the continuance of said Bureau of Negro Economics, and we hereby pledge our hearty support and cooperation in every way possible to make it fulfill its highest possible usefulness;

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby commend and endorse Dr. George E. Haynes, Director of said Bureau, who has shown marked efficiency and wisdom in handling the many delicate problems relating to labor and involving the relations between the races, and respectfully suggest that the splendid results following his administrative efforts warrant the continuance of Dr. George E. Haynes as Director of said Bureau of Negro Economics"

It gives me pleasure to bring to your attention this action of the Business League.

Very truly yours,
Emmett J. Scott
Secretary: National
Negro Business League

TWENTY-EIGHT TWENTY-TWO SHEPHERD AVENUE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

102 August 30, 1919.

Hon. H. B. Wilson
Secretary of Agriculture
Washington



Dear Sir -
Noting for the first time in the current issue of The Crisis the publication of your letter to Dr. Joseph Haynes, in which you so graciously commend his work and so generously provide for its continuance, I feel constrained to write you this expression of my sincere appreciation.
It gratifies all of us to know that a member of our race having been called as Dr. Haynes works to an entirely new field of constructive work under new conditions and unusual environment was able so to perform his duties as to merit the approval of his superior officers; for we feel sure that to whatever extent ability he displayed there was added the cordial support and helpful cooperation of those above him for him to achieve the success his record discloses. In speaking for myself and others of my race I desire most sincerely to thank you for the splendid opportunity you have given to him and to us through him.

With very best respects,
Yours truly,
Hiram E. Baker

No. 8-102.

August 30, 1919.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 27th instant relative to Dr. George E. Haynes, Director of Negro Economics. I am directed by the Secretary to express his thanks for your letter of commendation of his work.

Respectfully,

EXACT COPY AS SIGNED BY S. J. GOMPERS
MAILED 9/2/19 BY Chief Clerk.

Mr. Rodney W. Roundy,
287 Fourth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

C c

No. 8-102.

August 30, 1919.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 28th inst. transmitting resolution adopted at the annual meeting of the National Negro Business League, held in St. Louis, Mo., during this month. I am directed by the Secretary to thank you for your expression of opinion relative to the work of Dr. George E. Haynes.

Respectfully,

EXACT COPY AS SIGNED BY S. J. COMPTON

MAILED

BY

Chief Clerk.

Mr. Emmett J. Scott,
Howard University,
Washington, D. C.

G c

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GENERAL SECRETARY

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

347 Madison Avenue, New York.

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September 2, 1919.



Honorable W. B. Wilson,
Secretary Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am heartily glad to learn that you have decided to continue the services of Dr. George E. Haynes, Director of the Department of Labor and Economics.

I have known Dr. Haynes since he was a student and have had him associated with me in my work. I have always believed in him and have been most happy to observe the splendid manner in which he has conducted his work in your department. His work becomes a great asset not only to our race but to the nation. I have rendered him every service I possibly could and shall be pleased to continue.

With every good wish, I am,

Very truly yours,

J. E. Moorland

JEM/LEH

No. 8-108.

Sept. 3, 1919.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 30th ultimo relative to Dr. George E. Haynes. I am directed by the Secretary to thank you for your expression of opinion relative to the work of Dr. Haynes.

EXACTLY REPRODUCED BY S. J. GOMPERS
MAILED 9/3/19 BY Chief Clerk.

Mr. Henry E. Baker,
2822 Sherman Avenue,
Washington, D. C.

G c

No. 8-102.

Sept. 4, 1912.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 2d instant relative to Dr. George E. Haynes. I am directed by the Secretary to thank you for your expression of opinion relative to the work of Dr. Haynes.

EXACT COPY FILED BY S. J. GOMPERS

MAILED

9/4/12

J. F. MRS

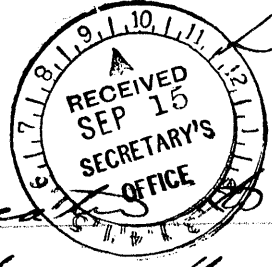
Chief Clerk.

Mr. J. E. Moorland,
1816 Twelfth St., N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

G c

Washington, D.C. Sept 11 1919

Mr. W. B. Wilson
Dear friend



Rec'd your communication to Dr. George
 E. Hoagney, Director of Negro Economics
 with great interest. The labor question
 is now uppermost in this country, how
 it will be settled, Labor Unions, Will
 predatory Wealth still oppress the
 millions. But was glad that you
 give new hope to the Negro
 race. They have ^{and} still
 exploited by irresponsible conscience,
 believe them to procure homes,
 Once they are certain that their
 life, property, and pursuit of
 happiness are secure they will
 be less restless. The Negro question
 is growing in intensity, and
 Washington should get busy.
 As for Negro protection,
 Raymond Cerniman's book is great
 Read your letter in Crisis.

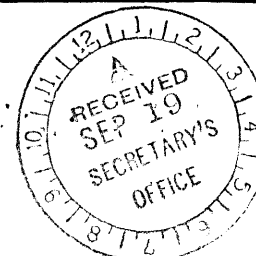
W. B. Wilson

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES
127 EAST 23RD STREET ROOMS 33-34, NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE: GRAMERCY 3978

SOUTHERN HEADQUARTERS: NASHVILLE, TENN.



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WHITE PLAINS
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

September
Eighteenth
1919

My dear Mr. Wilson:

I have read with great pleasure a copy of the letter which you wrote on July first to Dr. Haynes commending and continuing his services as the Director of Negro Economics.

Our organization certainly appreciates your decision to continue this Department and to use Dr. Haynes' service as Director.

The great industrial problems that are now before the American people are so serious that they require all of the wisdom that we can command to meet them properly. Negroes constituting one-seventh of the actual labor supply of the country will of course have a very determining affect upon the final solution of the questions. The Department of Negro Economics will be of great service in interpreting the needs and hopes of the colored workers for the Department of Labor and for our Country at large.

We trust that this Department will be continued indefinitely.

Sincerely yours,

EKJ/PW

Mr. W. B. Wilson, Secretary,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D.C.

September 22, 1919.

Sir:

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 18th inst. I am directed by the Secretary to thank you for your expression of opinion relative to the work of Dr. Haynes.

Respectfully,

L. J. Conroy
Chief Clerk.

Mr. Eugene K. Jones,
National Urban League,
127 East 23d Street,
New York, N. Y.

G Wy

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

October 9, 1919.

MEMORANDUM:

From: The Director of Negro Economics
To: The Secretary
Subject: Retention of Messrs. Hall and Jennifer

The discontinuance of the field organization of the U. S. Employment Service raises the question of the status of Messrs. Charles E. Hall and William Jennifer, transferred August 20, 1919, at the request of the Director General, from the Immigration Service to the Employment Service. I wish to ascertain whether these men are to be retained on the payroll of the Employment Service, since they were recently transferred from the Immigration Service - (Section 24).

If they are not to be retained on the Employment Service payroll, are they to be retransferred to the Immigration Service? You recall they are both men of long civil-service standing and were originally brought from the Department of Commerce ~~at~~ ^{to} the Bureau of Immigration of this Department.

Respectfully,

Director of Negro Economics.

h
p

over a full

October 13, 1919.

Memorandum:
For: The Secretary
From: The Assistant Secretary
Subject: Retention of Messrs. Hall and Jennifer.

In transmitting the hereunder memorandum and telegram from the Director of Negro Economics, I call your attention to the fact that the employees named may come within either class A or class B of your Departmental memorandum of October 11, 1919 to the Commissioner General of Immigration.

The circumstances regarding the two employees in question are such that it will be necessary for the Secretary in person to determine whether their employment shall continue on the Employment Service roll, or be made dependent upon their standing in the Immigration Service under the above cited Departmental memorandum to the Commissioner General. I advise a consultation with the Director of Negro Economics before decision.

Louis F. Post
Assistant Secretary.

2 enclosures - accompanying.

P/MLO

*Mem. for the Secretary
From the Asst. Secy*

Subject: Transfer of Messrs. Jennifer and Hall from Bureau of Immigration Service to the U.S. Employment Service.

During the absence of the Secretary two recommendations came to me, one from the Assistant Director General of the Employment Service and the other from the Commissioner General of Immigration, both dated August 20. The effect of these recommendations when approved by the Department is to transfer Willima Jennifer and Charles E. Hall from the Immigration Service to the U.S. Employment Service at a salary of \$1200 each, which as I am ~~orally~~ informed is to be increased to \$1500 when the transfer shall have become complete.

As the arrangement for these transfers did not come to my attention until the above named recommendations were presented to me for ~~the~~ Departmental approval, I have no other knowledge of their having had your approval than the opening words of the Commissioner General's recommendation, namely: "Pursuant to the instructions of the Secretary". Knowing, however, from my connection with the work of the Director of Negro Economics that such transfers ~~might~~ ^{might} involve the Department ~~in serious complications~~ ^{in serious complications} with reference to race problems mingled with labor problems ~~(and especially in connection with the racial problem commonly spoken of as the Negro exodus from the South)~~ I withheld ~~the~~ approval of the aforesaid recommendations until I could confer with the Director of Negro Economics who was at the time on his way back from an investigation ~~of the~~ ⁱⁿ Chicago ~~disturbance.~~ ^{and Detroit}

Having conferred with the Director of Negro Economics today I am of the opinion that the transfers ^s in question ^s should be immediately followed by a detail of the transferees to the Office of the Secretary for service under the Director of Negro Economics.

Therefore in signing the recommendation of the Director General⁵ and the Assistant Director General, I have done so with the inference on my own part that nothing ~~more~~^{else} was intended by you in reference to these transfers than to shift the transferees from one salary roll to another.

In view of the probable

~~seriousness of the situation~~
~~including questions of policy of~~
~~of the two transfers I re-~~
~~with Mr. Abernethie~~
at a conference at your earliest convenience and the
Director of Negro Economics

Louis F. Post.

Assistant Secretary

involved I
respectful
recognition

Labos

First Congregational Church

Rev. J. A. Stone, Pastor

8/10

THE WHITE HOUSE
OCT 31 1919
RECEIVED

Carpentersville, Illinois,

Oct., 29, 1919.

RECEIVED
NOV 4
SECRETARY'S
OFFICE

Honorable Woodrow Wilson,
President of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Please find enclosed a copy of a set of resolutions adopted by the Chicago Association of Congregational Churches, together with a resolution of endorsement by the Congregational Church of Carpentersville, Illinois.

We are deeply impressed with the importance of this matter and trust that you will give it the attention that the subject merits.

With regards, I am,

Most respectfully yours,

J. A. Stone

First Congregational Church

Rev. J. D. Stone, Pastor

Carpentersville, Illinois,

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted at the meeting of the Chicago Association of Congregational Churches at Morgan Park, Oct., 7th, 1919.

Resolved:- "That we deplore the spirit of race prejudice and unfairness manifested by both whites and blacks, in the recent race riots in Chicago and elsewhere. We see back of them the lust for political power by the leaders of both races; we see the colonization and exploitation of negro labor as against white labor to the detriment and danger of both; we see culpable neglect in the failure to meet the housing needs of the negro; and we see a lack of fair play and justice by representatives of the white race in handling the whole problem.

We commend the appointment by the Governor of a commission to consider all phases of the problem within the state, and recommend the appointment by the Federal Government of a similar commission to deal with the situation from a national standpoint.

We re-affirm the historic conviction of our churches in the fundamental need everywhere of a more Christian spirit and action, in order to the solution of this national phase of a world problem.

Signed:- S. A. Lloyd, Wilmette, Ill.

Frank F. Fitch, Oak Park, Ill.

Ernest Bourner Allen, Chairman, Oak Park, Ill.

Carpentersville, Ill.
Oct., 19, 1919.

Resolved:- That we the members of the Congregational Church of Carpentersville, Ill. unanimously endorse the above resolutions of the Chicago Association, and that copies of this endorsement be sent to the Governor of the state of Illinois, and the President of the United States.

Signed:-

J. D. Stone Pastor.
Mrs. F. R. Davis Clerk.

No. 8-103

November 6, 1919;

Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 29th ult., by reference from the White House, inclosing a copy of a set of resolutions adopted by the Chicago Association of Congregational Churches, together with a resolution of endorsement by the Congregational Church of Carpentersville, Illinois.

In reply thereto you are advised that this has been brought to the attention of the Secretary of Labor, who now has the matter under consideration.

Respectfully,
EXACT COPY AS FILED BY S. J. COMPERS
MAILED 11/7/19 EX 8 244
Chief Clerk.

Rev. J. D. Stone, Pastor,
First Congregational Church,
Carpentersville, Illinois.

G Wy

*Case file
Meeker*

Statement :

Mr. Love, Disbursing Clerk, gives the information that there is a precedent in the Department, in the Training Service, where an expert was employed at a fractional part of his previous salary per annum, and continued to give part-time service to the Department. There was, however, no stipulation in the appointment that he was to give only such part time, the basis of the arrangement being the change from his former basic salary. He thus gave part of his time to the Department and was available for special services when called. Mr. Love thinks that this is the best arrangement for the Director of Negro Economics, as adviser to the Secretary on Negro affairs, under the readjustment of his appointment in the Bureau of Labor Statistics; for should the question be raised as to not giving full time explanation could legally be made that only part time is being given, based upon his previous salary. That is to say, the Director of Negro Economics should be reappointed as an Expert and certified on the payroll in the regular way.

The agreement of the Commissioner of Labor Statistics, approved by the Secretary, copy of which is attached, provided \$3,580 for the use of this work for salaries, subject to re-distribution as exigencies require. At the end of this month there would be expended out of this fund \$1,720. This is expended at the rate of \$430 per month. Mr. Phillips should be continued on the fund at the rate he is now receiving. Miss Campbell can be transferred, as of November 1, 1919, to the General Expense Fund of the Children's Bureau, at \$1,000 per annum. The Director of Negro Economics should be reappointed, with his present designation, at a salary of ~~\$2,500 per annum~~

\$12,000 per annum

If this is done, it will enable the Negro Economics Service to be continued to the Secretary, with provision for the salary of Mr. Phillips for the remainder of the fiscal year; with provision for the salary of the Director of Negro Economics for ~~some~~ the remaining months of the fiscal year, these salaries to be paid out of the fund of the Bureau of Labor Statistics; and the retention of Miss Campbell for the remainder of the fiscal year on the general expense fund of the Children's Bureau.

Entered as second-class matter October 9 1917, at the Post Office at Baltimore, Maryland, under the Act of March 3, 1879

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1919.

EDITORIAL

The Division of Negro Economics In The Department of Labor

Secretary Wilson in his Report of the Department of Labor explains the reason for the creation of the Division of Negro Economics, the purposes and plans underlying its establishment, the function of the head of the division and his relation to the Secretary.

The Secretary frankly declares that the division was created "not only because the advice of an expert was necessary, but because it was felt that a race which made up such a large share of our industrial army and had contributed so generously to our military and naval forces were certainly entitled to a seat at the council table where matters affecting its interests were considered."

In this generous and far sighted recognition of the principle of representation for the race at the "council table" Secretary Wilson reveals a broadmindedness and sympathetic regard for justice which if possessed generally by men in high official station would soon solve the so-called Negro Problem.

It is exceedingly fortunate for the race and for the country at this time that a man with such a clear sense of justice should preside over the Department which from now on will no doubt have the largest and most difficult task of all the great Executive Departments to work out to achievement. The restoration of peace has centered the anxious concern of every government executive official and of every thoughtful citizen upon the field of labor. In that field the battle for bread will soon begin to be waged, the old struggle for existence renewed.

To Dr. Geo. E. Haynes, the head of the Division of Negro Economics and spokesman for the Negro in the Department of Labor, the toiling Negro masses can look with confident assurance that their interests will be ably and conscientiously looked after.

The success that Dr. Haynes has already achieved in bringing about a better understanding between employers and Negro leaders vindicates the wisdom of Secretary Wilson in creating the Division of Negro Economics and placing Dr. Haynes at its head.

In order that the laboring masses should derive the fullest benefits from the work of Dr. Haynes and the Department which he represents he should receive the most hearty and active cooperation of our people in every state and community.

Those who may not now need the services and assistance of the government may later need it and should get in line now. Dr. Haynes is working to better the labor condition of the Negro, in

order to do so the Negro laborer as well as Negroes of every profession and class must join and patriotically help.

52-C

8/102
January 16, 1920.

Dr. George E. Haynes,
Expert, Bureau of Labor Statistics,
45 West 18th St.,
New York City.

Sir:

Authority is hereby granted, including travel and other expenses, for you to proceed from your official station, New York, N. Y. to Washington, D. C. and return, for the purpose of official business connected with child welfare activities. The expenses incident to such travel are properly chargeable to the appropriation "General Expenses, Children's Bureau 1920", such travel to commence on or after January 17, 1920.

To expedite payment, a copy of this authorization should be attached to your voucher.

(SIGNED) CAROLINE FLEMING
Assistant Chief.

RECORDED:

(SIGNED) S. J. GOMPERS
Chief Clerk.

AUTHORIZED:

(SIGNED) LOUIS F. POST
Assistant Secretary.

For original carbon copy of this letter see file No. 168/3

Mr. Phillips

February 3, 1920.

Major E. C. Goebert,
Office of the Chief of Ordnance,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

Capt. James F. Ryder
Asst. Chief, Civilian Personnel

File 201/4108

My dear Sir:

I thank you for your letter of the 30th ultimo naming an entrance salary of \$1,800 per annum for the position of Stenographic Expert in your office.

I regret to advise you that I do not desire to be considered an applicant for the position at that salary. The fact that I am a licensed attorney-at-law, and, therefore, am necessarily well acquainted with the procedure, practices and terms of reporting; that I hold the degree of State Stenographer under the University of the State of New York; that I am an experienced former employee of the War Department and am familiar with the property and accounting systems of the Ordnance Department; and that I have been rated, for years, both in the Courts and in the service of the United States, as an expert stenographer, amply justifies, it seems to me, an entrance salary of \$2,200 per annum in accordance with my letters of December 31, 1919, and January 28, 1920.

I thank you for your kind consideration of my application and regret that I cannot accept the position at less than the \$2,200 rate.

Yours respectfully,



Karl F. Phillips.

February 13, 1920.

Director of Negro Economics:

1. The Secretary has approved your request for standing permission for the employees of your office to work overtime in emergencies.

(SIGNED) S. J. GOMPERS

Chief Clerk.

G. W. W.

For original carbon copy of this letter see file No. 8/40

*Noted and transmitted
to the Secretary L.J.P.
Mar 13/20*

*S
D
E*

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

February 14, 1920.

Report : THROUGH THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

From: The Director of Negro Economics
To: The Secretary
Period: December, 1919 and January, 1920

With an office staff of two persons, I have endeavored, as far as possible, to keep in general touch with field situations in Negro labor matters and with publicity reaching Negro people of various localities. In this connection particular attention has been given to radical propoganda.

During December, the Director of Negro Economics gave four days to the Department on the new per diem basis and in January, six days. The office has been busily engaged in compiling statistics and data relating to the Negro laborer, as evidenced by reports from eleven states, on file in this office, and from investigations in the field, statements on which, on account of pressure of work, the office was unable to compile last year. Comprehensive tables have been prepared on the inclusion of the Negro in specific industries. These tables and accompanying texts will be presented to the Secretary at a later date for his inspection and approval.

Based upon some of these data the Director of Negro Economics has apprised various organizations and individuals of extraordinary conditions of Negro labor and of increased opportunities in that connection.

Advice has been given Negro applicants in professional, domestic and personal service positions.

In January, after special conference with the President of the U. S. Housing Corporation, I spent a day at Truxtun, Va., going over the project, meeting the householders, and speaking to them in an assembly and meeting in preparation for the sale of the properties which has followed, as shown by the copy of the accompanying poster. A copy of my report to the U. S. Housing Corporation is herewith attached.

*Approved
Mar 24/20
L.J.P. enclosures*

Respectfully,
George E. Haynes
Director of Negro Economics.
3/13/20.

8 copies in 16 and 7
102 866 13

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

February 18, 1920.



Copy -
Bureau of Naturalization
(Mr. Moore)

Memorandum :

From: The Director of Negro Economics
To: The Chief Clerk
Subject: Departmental property - Room 401

1. There is turned back to the Department -

1 oak desk (six drawer)
standard 106, size 55 -

charged to the Division of Negro Economics on August 6, 1919.

2. It is believed that the Chief Clerk is about to approve requisition of the Commissioner for the use of Room 401, now assigned to the Division of Negro Economics. Additional approval is therefore sought to leave in the said room, for the temporary use of the Bureau of Naturalization, as bailee, the following property now charged to the Division of Negro Economics, inasmuch as departmental instructions of July, 1919, were to the effect that this property was to remain within the custody of the Division of Negro Economics:

- 2 oak typewriting desks (drop - six drawer)
- 1 oak desk (six drawer)
- 1 oak typewriting table (three drawer)
- 1 oak chair
- 3 oak typewriting chairs
- 1 typewriter - L. C. Smith No. 324506-8
- 1 typewriter - Remington 84971
- 2 baskets, waste
- 4 trays, desk (oak)
- 4 trays, desk (wire)

Respectfully,

GEORGE E. HAYNES,

Director of Negro Economics

By

James H. Phillips
Assistant

*for
index*

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

February 21, 1920.

Memorandum:

From: The Director of Negro Economics
To: The Assistant Secretary

The accompanying report, dated November 1, 1919, is respectfully transmitted with the following explanation as to its not having been transmitted at an earlier date.

The report was forwarded on November 1, 1919, but through an oversight reached the office of the Chief Clerk, minus enclosures which should have properly accompanied it. It was returned from the office of the Chief Clerk, together with the "Badin" report, which contained additional instructions of the Assistant Secretary for supplemental report of study made of Badin, N.C.

The accompanying enclosures, particularly the one entitled "Justice for the Negro" which was deemed to be of great importance, have just been found, after diligent search; hence, the report, dated November 1, 1919, is re-submitted, at a late date.

Respectfully,

George A. Haynes

Director of Negro Economics.

H/MIC
*Valid
Habe 2/1/20
L. J. P.*

CLEVELAND AND POLL SURVEY COMMITTEE

R. L. HAMLETT,
Supervisory Secretary

Pine ave

39165 CENTRAL AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO

*8
102*

Cleveland, Ohio

February 23, 1920

Hon. W. B. Wilson
Secretary of Labor
Washington, D. C.



Dear Sir:-

There are in this section a large number of colored men who had training and experience as Breakmen, Firemen and Switchmen on railroads when they lived in the Southern section of our country. These men are anxious to enter this line of work up here but are debarred on account of their color.

Knowing your stand for a fair deal to every man, I am writing to ask you to use your influence to help break this barrier so that these men may have a chance to work in the transportation service. A statement from you expressing it as your opinion that they should be given such a chance will go far towards accomplishing this end.

Hoping that this will appeal to your sense of justice and fair play and that you will help to secure this for these deserving colored men, I am,

Sincerely yours,

P.S. I am sending Hon Samuel P Compers a copy of This letter.

No. 8-102

March 1, 1920.

Sir:

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 23d ultimo, addressed to the Secretary of Labor, in which you ask certain information relative to colored men who have had training and experience as Brakemen, Firemen, and Switchmen on railroads.

2. In reply thereto you are advised that your communication has been referred to the Director of Negro Economics of this Department, and you will be informed of his report thereon.

Respectfully,
EXACT COPY AS SIGNED BY S. J. GOMPERS
MAILED 2/2/20 BY J. T. M. K.
Chief Clerk.

Mr. R. L. Hamlett,
Cleveland Poll Survey Committee,
Pine Avenue,
Cleveland, Ohio.

G.Wy

ROBERT S. ABBOTT
EDGAR A. BANCROFT
WILLIAM SCOTT BOND
EDWARD OSGOOD BROWN
GEORGE C. HALL
GEORGE H. JACKSON

CHICAGO COMMISSION ON RACE RELATIONS

APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR FRANK O. LOWDEN
OFFICE 414-415 OXFORD BUILDING, 118 NORTH LA SALLE STREET
TELEPHONE MAIN 2937

HARRY EUGENE KELLY
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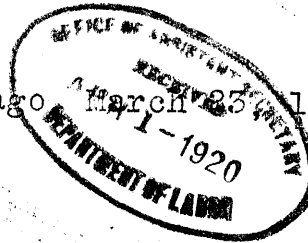
ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

EDGAR A. BANCROFT,
CHAIRMAN

GRAHAM ROMEYN TAYLOR,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
CHARLES S. JOHNSON,
ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE SEC'Y

9/12

Chicago March 25 1920.



Hon. Louis F. Post,
Assistant Secretary,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Post:-

If I carry out present plans I shall be in Washington on March 29 and for a couple of days thereafter. I am very anxious to get in touch with what Mr. George E. Haines has been studying relative to the Negro in industry, particularly as it concerns the Chicago district.

You may not perhaps know that at the present time I am organizing and carrying through the investigation which is being made by the Chicago Commission on Race Relations appointed by Governor Lowden. The enclosed leaflet briefly states the facts concerning the appointment of the Commission and the lines of inquiry it is undertaking.

I am looking forward with great eagerness to the opportunity to see you again and hope that we may have a chance for a real talk to renew the old associations which I have thought about many times in my years of wandering, and exchange points of view upon some of the phases of the present outlook.

If either you or Mr. Haines do not expect to be in Washington during the first three days of next week, March 29 - 31, it might have some bearing on my plans to come at this time. Will you be good enough upon receiving this letter, to send me a telegram at my expense, letting me know definitely?

With most cordial regards to Mrs. Post and yourself,

Very sincerely yours,

Graham Romeyn Taylor

GRT/MM

March 26, 1920.

My dear Mr. Taylor:

Mr. Post has directed me to forward to Mr. Howard S. Braucher a letter to him from you under date of March 23, 1920, which came to this office in an envelope evidently mistakenly addressed to Mr. Post

Sincerely,

Lillian Conrad,
Confidential Clerk.

LC

Mr. Graham R. Taylor,
Chicago Commission on Race Relations,
118 North La Salle St.,
Chicago, Illinois.

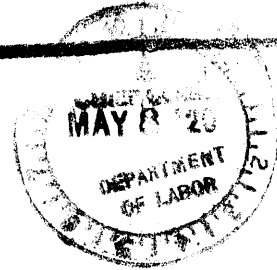
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1920.

8
102



Memorandum

From: The Director of Negro Economics

To: The Chief Clerk

Subject: Attendance of Charles E. Hall, Bureau of the Census,
at Conference May 10, 1920.

During the past two years the Director of Negro Economics and Field Staff of the Department of Labor have carried forward work in the District of Columbia relating to Negro workers. This work, on June 30, 1919, had been of quite a wide scope and there are at present a few details growing out of that work which need immediate attention. Two members of the staff of the Director of Negro Economics, Charles E. Hall and Fred D. McCracken, the latter of whom was in a supervisory position in the Department of Labor, are now connected with other branches of the Government Service. Mr. McCracken has been authorized by his superiors to come to Washington on Monday, May 10, for the purpose of taking up with the office of the Director of Negro Economics matters relating to his former work. It is also important that Charles E. Hall, who is now with the Bureau of the Census, be authorized to be present at that time.

In view of the above request is respectfully made that the Chief Clerk take informal or other action looking to the granting, by the Bureau of the Census, of Mr. Hall's release from official duty for the above-stated purpose.

Respectfully

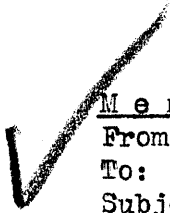
W. M. Phillips
Assistant to the Director of Negro Economics.

P/MLC

Mr. Fitzgerald, chief clerk of the Census Bureau, stated that this could not be done as the work in question is not for the Department of Commerce. Mr. Hall had also used all his annual leave. Mr. Phillips was notified accordingly.

May 8, 1920, J. C. W.

Index



File

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

5/12/20

To: Mr Post

Frank L. Phillips

Asst to W. H. Sawyer

Filed & transmitted
to Sec. Secretary
May 12/20 L. J. P.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

For the Secretary

✓

May 12/20

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

May 12, 1920.

8

102

The Honorable The Secretary of Labor
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Following the interview which you so generously granted today to Miss Anderson, Mr. Densmore, and to me, representing the Director of Negro Economics, I have taken the liberty of preparing, and am transmitting to you herewith, brief statement for your scrutiny and for the purpose of refreshing your recollection in connection with your appearance before the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

Respectfully,

Karl F. Phillips
Assistant to the Director of
Negro Economics.

P.MLG

Noted May 21-20
Koch

File
(11)

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

DIVISION OF NEGRO ECONOMICS

"To enable the Secretary of Labor to deal with the problems of Negro workers and their relations to white employers and white workers, including personal services in the District of Columbia and in the field, \$15,000."

Statement of Facts (for the information of the Secretary of Labor):

Amount originally asked for ----- \$110,710
Amount favorably reported out of the House Sub-
Committee ----- \$15,000

Results Accomplished by Previous Work:

1. Migration Study,- of great value to employers, North and South.
2. Unpublished Bulletin (110 pages) of statistics, data, and information on industry and agriculture, North and South.
 - a. U.S. Shipyard employees (Negroes - 38,722)
 - b. Meat packing industry, including Negro women employees.
 - c. The steel industry.
 - d. Miscellaneous statistics on wage scales and production.
 - e. Tables of employers' opinions on efficiency of Negro workers (invaluable to prospective employers of Negro workers).
3. Racial friction allayed between workers and citizens, white and black, wherever prevalent, in 11 states, North and South.
4. Thrift and full-time work promoted.
5. Advice given to the bureaus and divisions of the Department of Labor in the shaping of their policies to promote and foster the welfare of workers. In this connection invaluable advice in the housing and health of Negro workers has been given.

Summary:

Negroes constitute one-seventh of the working population.

Seventy-one per cent, or nearly three-fourths of the total Negro population ten years of age and over are gainfully employed in comparison with 51.3 per cent or a little more than one-half of the white population ten years of age and over. More than one-half of the Negroes ten years of age and over gainfully employed in 1910 were engaged in agriculture and nearly one-half of those in agriculture were farm laborers.

It is not the policy of the Department of Labor to unionize any group of workers, but rather to exercise its functions indiscriminately as to all workers, union or nonunion, white or black, male or female; hence the Division of Negro Economics has at no time advocated or restricted an influence for or against unionism.

However, on account of the peculiar problems arising wherever white and colored workers are jointly involved, the interests of both groups call strongly for the special service which the Division of Negro Economics has given in the past.

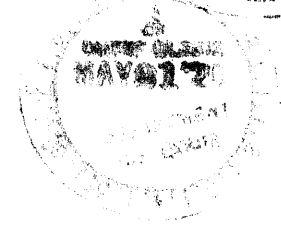
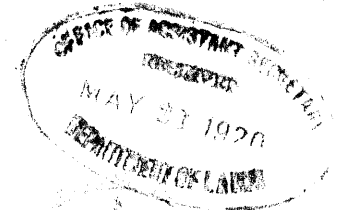
As a current illustration of this special need, there is quoted the following brief appeal of the Edison Storage Battery Company of Orange, N. J., under date of May 7, 1920:

"We have quite a number of Negroes working in our plant at the present time and I am very much interested in them. They have shown very good results. Anything you can do to help me in the solution of this vital problem will be very much appreciated."

Therefore, it is again requested that the \$110,710 be granted and that if this amount be not granted as much thereof as Congress sees fit to grant should be appropriated, and, as a last resort, the \$15,000 now taken out of the Sundry Civil Bill on a point of order should be restored, even though it is inadequate to meet the pressing needs of the Department in continuing the Negro Economics Service.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

TELEGRAM



WU.....6 Q 82 -4ex.N.L.

SD....New York City. 20 May, 1920.

Louis F. Post,
Washington.

In order give widest possible circulation views leading Americans
anent eleventh annual conference National Association Advancement
Colored People, held Atlanta, May thirtieth, June second, on invitation
Governor, Mayor of Atlanta, Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, May we have fifty
or more word telegram from you for immediate press use, stating why you
believe that America's industrial ills must be settled in part by
giving absolute justice to negro workmen, North and South. Wire message,
collect, to seventy fifth ave.

National Association Advancement
colored People.
By John R. Shillady

930am May 21

Assistant Secretary

May 22, 1920.

John R. Shillady,
National Association Advancement,
Colored People,
New York City,
N.Y.

Industrial effectiveness demands just treatment of Negro workingmen simply because they are workingmen. Stop. Without workingmen our world-wide industrial processes would cease altogether. Stop. If a sense of injustice rankles in the breasts of workingmen, man-power is thereby diminished and industrial activities are consequently hindered. Stop. This is an invariable principle of human industry, Stop. It springs out of a familiar law of human nature which yields nothing to consideration of race or color. Stop. To the extent that industry is dependent upon Negro workingmen, production to that extent is checked by injustice to Negroes.

Louis F. Post,
Assistant Secretary.
Commercial Rate Collect.

HR
Went (checked)
for [unclear]

Mon Rhodes: this telegram
for me
Post signature
HR

HR
Went (called)
for my papers
L. J. N.

Mr Rhodes:
Prepare this telegram
for me
Post signature
HR

Industrial effectiveness demands just treatment of Negro
workingmen simply because they are workingmen. Stop, Without
workingmen ^{our} ~~the~~ world-wide industrial processes would cease al-
together. Stop. If a sense of injustice rankles in the ~~the~~
^{of workingmen,} breasts man-power is thereby diminished and industrial activi-
ties are consequently hindered. Stop. This is an invariable prin-
ciple of human industry. Stop. It springs out of a familiar law
of human nature which yields nothing to considerations of race
or color. Stop. To the extent that industry is dependent upon
Negro workingmen, to that extent ~~is industrial harmony disturbed~~
^{production} ~~and industrial effectiveness~~ checked by injustice to Negroes.

#

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

102
June 2, 1920.

Report : THROUGH THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

From: The Director of Negro Economics
To: The Secretary
Period: April and May, 1920.

During April, 1920, I was on duty at the Department three days, during which time I took care of routine correspondence and matters coming up relating to Negro workers. The office has also, as far as possible, kept in touch with the movement of Negro workers, particularly the movement from the South. As yet there does not seem to have been any heavy migration northward as in previous years, probably due to improved race relations in the South, to the greater demand for labor and better wages in the South, and to the unsettled industrial conditions in the North. Whether or not, as the Summer comes on, the movement will increase is doubtful.

The office has also outlined plans for preparing additional material now in the files, in order that it may be available for public use. There is still in our files a large amount of raw material which, undoubtedly, the public would find of value.

During May, the Director of Negro Economics prepared the material and appeared before the Appropriation Committees of the House and the Senate in behalf of continued appropriation for this work.

The office continues to have frequent calls for information, advice, plans and personal service on the ground in the adjustment of situations involving Negro workers and white employers and white workers, but is only able to give such help by correspondence because of lack of financial provision.

Respectfully submitted,

George E. Haynes
Director of Negro Economics.

*File
9.7.21*

h
P

*Noted & transmitted
to the Secretary
June 4/20 L. J. P.*

*Noted June 3-20
HBSH*

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

107
JUL 22 1920



R e q u i s i t i o n :

Through the Chief Clerk

To: Division of Publications and Supplies
From: Division of Negro Economics

Requisition is respectfully made for one box (500) of No. 9 envelopes (sample attached) and one box (500) of No. 10 envelopes (sample attached). The same are needed for the mailing out and receipt of monthly reports on labor conditions in the states.

Respectfully,

GEORGE E. HAYNES,

Director of Negro Economics.

By

Jan Y. Phillips
Special Agent.

File

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

13
102
August 18, 1920. *U*

Report: THROUGH THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

From: The Director of Negro Economics
To: The Secretary
Subject: Work - June, 1920.

During June, 1920, I was on duty at the Department six days, during which time I looked after routine correspondence and other matters coming up for advice to the Department about Negro wage-earners.

Plans were also made out for questionnaires to be sent to former members of Negro workers' advisory committees to secure information on labor conditions and labor problems in their several localities. Also, a questionnaire was prepared to be sent to employers and superintendents dealing with Negroes in industrial plants. General letters were prepared and sent to all the private citizens and representatives of organizations who had cooperated with the Department in this work during the past two years, expressing appreciation for their cooperation and informing them that the work was being continued.

A number of these persons were asked, also, to continue their cooperation and the first form of questionnaire, mentioned above, has been sent to those from whom replies have been received expressing their willingness to send the Department the information requested. A number of the questionnaires so sent out have been returned and are being checked and filed up as a means of keeping the Department fully informed of Negro labor conditions in various localities in the country.

Besides these reports on questionnaires sent out by this office, less formal reports and information are being received from conferences, conventions and other organization meetings where questions involving the interests of Negro wage-earners in their relations to employers and white wage-earners are being discussed and considered.

Respectfully,

George E. Haynes
Director of Negro Economics.

8/27/20

noted for Secy.
E.H.M.

File
As
CP

Notes on
transmitted
any 25/20 L.P.

August 18, 1920.

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Phillips,
Division of Negro Economics.

Mr. Connolly, of the Democratic National Committee, has asked to be permitted to see that part of the file of the Ohio Conference of 1918 which contains Governor Cox's address to the Conference. He states that your office is reluctant to permit him access to it. The Assistant Secretary has advised Mr. Connolly that the record in question is a public one, and that there is no objection to his seeing it. He has directed me to advise you that such steps should be taken by you as are necessary to render this permission effective.

By direction of the Assistant Secretary.

Private Secretary.

HR-G

Negro Economics

E/R

September 29, 1920.

For: Dr. Haynes.
From: Mr. Reid.

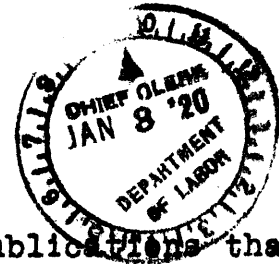
With regard to the Civil Service matter you discussed with me yesterday I have found that a precedent exists in the Department in the case of Barnabas C. Haworth, Immigration Service. You will find the governing rule in Civil Service Rules, p. 44, Rule II, paragraph 10. I would suggest that you send for the Haworth file and read it.

HR-eb

Negro Education

Spring Mount, Pa., December 31, 1920.

Department of Labor,
Washington, D.C.



Gentlemen:

I shall thank you for any literature or publications that may be available on the enforcement of the Fifteenth Amendment or any that may pertain to legislation by States or otherwise to prevent the enforcement of the letter of the amendment.

I desire this information for data for an interscholastic debate on the question "RESOLVED that the Fifteenth Amendment should be enforced by appropriate federal legislation."

Thanking you for your kindness in the matter, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

Samuel S. Wolford

102

January 3, 1921.

Index

Mr. Samuel S. Wolford,
Spring Mount, Pa.

Dear Sir:

The Department of Labor has issued no publications or information relative to the enforcement of the Fifteenth Amendment; nor would such a subject come properly within the scope of the Department's activities. I regret, therefore, that we cannot comply with your request of the 31st ultimo.

Yours very truly,

EXACT COPY AS SIGNED BY S. J. GORDON
MAILED 1/4/21 BY J. F. M. T.

Chief Clerk.

P

1/3/21
A. P. [unclear]
Director of Negro Economic

SIXTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

JOHN W. LANGLEY, KY., CHAIRMAN.
JOHN M. O. SMITH, MICH.
THOMAS B. DUNN, N.Y.
AARON S. KREIDER, PA.
RICHARD N. ELLIOTT, IND.
WILLIAM E. ANDREWS, NEBR.
CHARLES J. THOMPSON, OHIO.
EDWIN B. BROOKS, ILL.
J. WILL TAYLOR, TENN.
DANIEL A. REED, N. Y.
CARL R. OHINDBLOM, ILL.
JOHN W. HARRELD, OKLA.

FRANK CLARK, FLA.
JAMES O. CANTRILL
FRANK PARK, GA.
WILLIAM W. RUCKER, MO.
JOSEPH J. MANSFIELD, TEX.
ANTHONY J. GRIFFIN, N. Y.
PETER F. TAGUE, MASS.
EDWARD G. MANN, S. C.

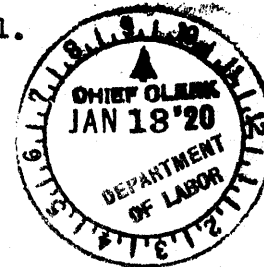
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROU

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES,

WASHINGTON.

8
102

January 12, 1921.



Labor Department,

Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

The enclosed letter from W. W. Bell, Wooldridge, Tenn., is self-explanatory. Will you please give me such information as you have touching this matter, and very greatly oblige

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. W. Harreld".

January 14, 1921.

My dear Mr. Taylor:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 12th instant, transmitting letter of Mr. W. W. Bell, District Auditor of the United Mine Workers of America, at Woodridge, Tennessee, in which he requests an appointment in the Division of Negro Economics of this Department.

In reply thereto you are advised that since the sub-committee in charge of the Legislative Bill for 1922 has failed to make provision for the continuance of this Division, and the money available for that purpose will be entirely expended March 1, it looks, unless the Senate will make such provision, as if this whole Service will have to be discontinued.

The Division of Negro Economics has been doing a good work, and in my opinion should be maintained; but if Congress ordains otherwise, there is nothing I can do in the matter.

Mr. Bell's letter is returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,

EXACT COPY AS SIGNED BY W. B. WILSON

MAILED 1/15/21 BY J. F. M. K.

Secretary.

Hon. J. Will Taylor, M. C.,
Room 436, House Office Building,
Washington, D. C.

G Wy

Inclosure.

7/102

THE NEW YORK SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

105 East Twenty-Second Street
NEW YORK

PORTER R. LEE, Director
WALTER W. PETTIT, Assistant Director
KATHARINE FOWLER, Secretary
CATHARINE MALTBY, Registrar

Industrial Courses

JOHN A. FITCH
ORDWAY TEAD

January 24, 1921.

Hon. William B. Wilson,
Secretary of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

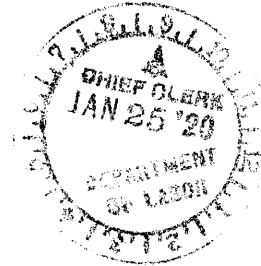
Dear Sir:--

I am writing to ask, first, if you will be good enough to send me a copy of your annual report which I understand has recently been issued; second, for information regarding the Bureau or Division of Negro Economics which was established during the war with Professor George E. Haynes at the head. Is this bureau still in existence? What are its probable needs from the standpoint of personnel during the coming year? We have some very capable negro students in this school who are well qualified for work in that division if any positions are open.

Yours very truly,

John A. Fitch

JAF:F



No. 8-103

January 25, 1921.

Sir:

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 24th instant, addressed to the Secretary of Labor, requesting a copy of his Annual Report, and also information regarding the Division of Negro Economics.

2. In compliance therewith, the Superintendent of Documents has been requested to forward to you a copy of the Annual Report of the Secretary for 1920.

3. In reference to the Division of Negro Economics, you are advised that this Division was organized during the war period to take care of the general economic condition of the Negroes. After the armistice was signed, Congress having made no provision for its continuance, this Division was conducted by the Secretary by detail of employees from other bureaus for which appropriations had been made. Appropriations have been requested of Congress for the continuation of this work, but as yet no relief has been given. As matters now stand it seems that this Division must be discontinued during the month of March for lack of appropriations. Consequently there will be no openings for anyone in that line.

Respectfully,

EXACT COPY AS SIGNED BY S. J. COMPTON

MAILED 1/26/21 BY J. F. [Signature]

Chief Clerk.

Mr. John A. Fitch,
New York School of Social Work,
105 East 22d Street,
New York, N. Y.

G Wy

7
C o p y

South Bend, Ind., Feb. 2, 1921.

Government Office,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir - Of the Chairman of the Government:

I write you to the mercy of the colored people here in South Bend. They condition is very critical. We havent nothing to eat - some that Studebaker has brought here for the benefit of his work and now they wont give a colored man a job. We go everwhere and ask for work. They tell us they aint hiring no colored men or they say they just want white men. They give the white men work and wont give the colored man nothing to do. We can't get nothing. They don't want to let us have nothing to eat. Can't get no coal unless we get the money and they are helping the poor white people and won't even let our colored women work. Every where they say they want white girls and they brought us here and now they say they don't want no Negroes here and won't give us nothing to do. They cuts off all they can - just a few colored people working and there is over 200 colored suffering for work. They don't want colored people here because they voted a Republican president elect; so please see that we will get some help for there is families that has children. Can't hardly get bread to eat and they won't give us no work and we have bills and can't pay them and they want to put us out doors and they is the cause of colored people being here; and please help us without trouble. Please, for we are in a hongry condition but we can't help ourselves so this state say they is going to run colored people away from this town. Them that do try to help us, the rest won't let them, so please help us in a needy condition. Please. They got as much right to help a colored man as they does a white man because the colored has went and stood face to face and breast to breast and how can they have a heart to try to keep us out of work and something to go on; so please find out why they are so hard on a colored man in this town and why they will give a white man work and trying to starve a colored man. Please. I do hope to hear from you soon * * * that we will be served like people and not dumb brutes so please investigate the matter.

I hope to hear or see something in this town in favor of a poor colored man, so I will close hoping to hear from you soon,

Yours truly,

M. L. J.
710 $\frac{1}{2}$ W. Monroe Street.

Negro Economics

RECEIVED
FEB 5 1921
DEPT. OF STATE

South Bend Ind

Feb 22

RECEIVED
CHIEF CLERK
FEB 7 '21
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Washington Dc

Dear Sir of the
Chairman of the govern
I write you to the Negro
of the colored people
here in South Bend
their condition is very
critical. I want to then
to eat some food. I have
brought here for the
benefit of his work and
now they want to give a colored
man a job. We go ever where
and ask for work they tell
no they can't find it. No
colored men or they say
they just want white men
they give the white men
work and want give the

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
FEB 2 1921

Director
Negro Economics

(2)

colored man rather to do
we cant get rather they
don't want to let us have
rather don't want to
coal unless we get the money
and they are helping the
poor white people and
won't even let our colored
women work even when they
say they want white girls
and they brought us here
and now they say they don't
want no niggers here and
won't give us rather to do
they cut off all they can
just a few colored people
waiting and there is over
200 colored suffering for
work they don't want
colored people here to

3

Cause they voted a Republican
president elect so please
say that we will get some
help for their families
that has children can't
hardly get bread to eat
and they want give us no work
and we have bills and can't
pay them and they want
to put us out of school and they
is the cause of colored people
being here and please
help us with out trouble
please for we are in a
longer condition but
we can't help our selfs so
this state say they is giving
to own colored people a way
from this town then that
do say to help us the rest
won't let them so please

4
helping in a greedy Conclish
parade they got as much
weight & help a colored man
as they dare a white man because
the colored has went and stood
face to face a breast to breast
and how can they have a heart
to try to keep us out of work
and some thing to go on so
please find out why
they are so hard on
a colored man in this
town and why they
will give a white man
work and trying starve a
colored man please
& I hope to hear from
you soon as you will
that we will served like
like people and get

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

February 5, 1921

Memorandum:

From: The Director of Negro Economics
To: The Secretary
Subject: Deficiency estimate - problems of labor relations

THROUGH THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

In submitting the accompanying deficiency estimate for your approval I ask, as mentioned in our conference, that this be entered as a deficiency in the Office of the Secretary, and that no reference be made to any Division of Negro Economics, because in the hearings before the House and Senate committees, heretofore, there has been strong objection on two grounds:

1. That this was an estimate to establish a new division or bureau; and
2. That it meant special legislation, unequally favoring Negroes.

The introduction has been reworded and some of the titles changed in the items so as to show to Congress what is the real intention of the Secretary of Labor and the Department, and to remove the apparent misunderstanding on this point which has arisen heretofore in the committee hearings.

Respectfully,

George E. Haynes

Director of Negro Economics.

h
p
1 enclosure accompanying.

*Noted & transmitted to
Ch. Clark Approved Feb 5-21
Feb 5/21 L. J. P. MBH*

Department of Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

To enable the Secretary of Labor to deal effectively with special problems of relations of Negro workers, white workers and employers, including personal services in the District of Columbia and in the field, not to exceed \$5 per diem in lieu of subsistence or \$8 per day actual expenses, telephone and telegraph, printing and binding, and miscellaneous and contingent expenses, during March, April, May and June, 1921, \$12,753.33.

Administrative Offices - Salaries:

1 adviser @ \$4,500 per annum	\$1,500.00	
1 assistant @ \$2,400 per annum	800.00	
1 stenographer @ \$1,200 per annum	400.00	
1 stenographer-file clerk @ \$1,200 per annum	<u>400.00</u>	
Total - Salaries	3,100.00	\$3,100.00

Field Services - Salaries:

5 special agents @ \$2,000 each, per annum	3,333.33	
2 special agents (female) @ \$1,800 each, per annum	1,200.00	
1 special agent (male) @ \$1,800 each, per annum	<u>600.00</u>	
Total - Salaries	5,133.33	5,133.33

Grand total - Salaries

8,233.33

Other objects of expenditure:

Travel expenses	1,800.00	
Per diem	1,800.00	
Equipment and supplies	240.00	
Telephone and telegraph	480.00	
Miscellaneous and contingent expenses	<u>200.00</u>	
Total - Other objects of expenditure	4,520.00	4,520.00

GRAND TOTAL - ALL EXPENSES

12,753.33

Wooldridge Tennessee.

February Fifteenth,
Nineteen Hundred and
Twenty one.

Mr, W.B.Wilson, Sec, of Labor.
Washington D.C.



Dear Sir:-

On my return home a few days ago from being absent from the State for several weeks found your letter to Hon, J. Will Taylor which was in reply to my request for position in the Division of Negro Economics i note very carefully what you have to say in favor of the continuance of said Division also note that funds will not be available after March 1st, and that there was nothing that you could do in the matter.

Very recently i was ^{by} advised a report from the Negro Press Association that ^{there} was a possibility of an allowance in the near future, if this report be true i am still an applicant for position on the above named Division and will greatly appreciate any thing that you can do for me.

I realize that the miners have been honored by having one from their ranks at the head of the Labor Department for the last eight years, should they be unlucky along that line with the next administration we as miners are taking this position that as the United Mine Workers of America is one of the largest organizations in the United States that stand for True Democracy and American Citizenship we are entitled to a reasonable number of representatives in the Department of Labor.

I have given the industrial and economic problem a very carefull study for a great many years besides being a member of and officially connected with organized labor for several years and am quite confident that i am qualified to fill the position applied for.

Wish to say futher that i can furnish recomendations from concern of presant employment also officials of Dist. and International Union U.M.W of A. as to my ability.

Trusting this will recieve the desired consideration,
I am,

Very truly yours,

W. W. Bell
Dist. Auditor Dist. 19. U.M.W of A.

WWB/OR.

February 16, 1921.

Sir:

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 15th instant, addressed to the Secretary of Labor, relative to the Division of Negro Economics.

2. In reply thereto I am directed by the Secretary to inform you that there has been no change in the situation since the date of his letter to Congressman Taylor on this subject. However, a record of your availability has been made and should an opening occur, your application will receive consideration.

Respectfully,

EXACT COPY AS SIGNED BY S. J. COMPTON

MAILED 2/16/21

Chief Clerk.

Mr. W. W. Bell,
Woolridge, Tenn.

G W

February 21, 1921.

Mr. M.L. J.
710 West Monroe Street,
South Bend, Ind.

Dear Sir:

Your letter addressed to the Government Office at Washington, D.C., asking for help on the condition of the migrant workers who have been brought to the city and are now out of work has been referred to me for reply.

At the present time this Department has been so limited in provision for its Employment Service that we have no representatives in your territory who could assist you in finding work. There is so much unemployment in other places, so far as we have information, that we could hardly advise you where to go.

Yours very truly,

EXACT COPY AS SIGNED BY POST

Mailed 2/23/21 by J. H. M. P.

Assistant Secretary.

G. E. H.

Cond. 1/2

March 1, 1921.

Sir:

You have been detailed from Commissioner of Conciliation for duty in the Office of the Secretary as Director in the Division of Negro Economics at Washington, D. C., for a period of 120 days, effective March 1, 1921.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(Signed) E. J. COMPERE

Mr. George E. Haynes.
MR

Chief Clerk
rel

BOUL-5336. AMERICAN UNITY LABOR UNION R.E. PARKER
3824 975th STATE STREET

Chicago Illinois,
March-fourteenth
9 2 1.

Labon
President Warren G. Harding,
Washington D.C.

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION.

Geo. H. Christian Jr.
Secy. to the President

RECEIVED
MAR 18 '21
CHIEF CLERK
DEPARTMENT
OF LABOR

RECEIVED
MAR 18
SECRETARY'S
OFFICE

THE WHITE HOUSE
RECEIVED
MAR 16 1921

Dear Sir:-

I am writing you for the American Unity Labor Union, which is an organization of colored laborers, working at the Stock Yards and Packing Plants.

We the colored workers of the Packing Plants would like to, be given a hearing before your Arbitration Board, and present our side of this great labor question, as we are as much concerned about the welfare of the Negro Laborer as the Whites are about the White Laborer. This organization, would like to have you look into the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and the American Federation both of whom are unfair to Negro Labor, at the Packing Plants. The colored laborers do the same work as the white laborers, yet it was stated by Mr. Fitzpatrick, in Ex-Governor Lowden's Race Commission, that the Negro in the American Federation and the Amalgamated Meat Cutters, could never be a master mechanic. The reason for this statement, the Negro happened to be born black, the Unions have labeled him inferior.

This is the record, a negro blacksmith can only earn fifty cents an hour, while the white man in the same capacity earns, one dollar, the same thing is true of the steamfitters, electricians, and machinists. The Chauffeurs' Local bar Negro members, this is the reason there are no colored men driving trucks at the Stock Yards, there are several other locals that bar Negroes. For this reason we formed the American Unity Labor Union at the Stock Yards and Packing Houses, and other industrial plants, we can fairness from no local.

Mr. Gompers president of the American Federation, stated that he could not help Negroes in districts, where the Local Council refuses to admit them, and where the by-laws bar them because they happen to be born black.

We come as American citizens and workers in the Stock Yards and Packing Houses throughout the United States under the American Unity Labor Union, to present our side of the question. We pray that your honor will grant us the privilege to appoint a colored man to the Arbitrating Board from our organization.

There are only two questions to be settled as far as Negro Laborers are concerned, the first is the number of hours called a days work or weeks work under which we are working, as we have agreed upon the cut in wages, with the packers. We further ask of you to take in hand the discrimination against laborers of the colored race just because they happen to be black in the Unions at the Packing Houses as discrimination exists both in the American Federation and the Amalgamated Meat Cutters. In this way they keep them from skilled labor in order to hold them as unskilled laborers.

Please give us a hearing on this.
We file this letter as a complaint against said Unions,
Hoping an early reply,

I am

Yours truly,

R.E. Parker, President.

R. E. Parker

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

March 17, 1921.

DIVISION OF CONCILIATION

SUGGESTED REPLY TO AMERICAN UNITY LABOR UNION.

Referring to the request of the American Unity Labor Union for representation in the packing house conference to be held here the 21st instant, permit me to respectfully advise you that arrangements have been completed to meet two representatives from each side, on that date, and that each side has chosen its representatives and has so notified me.

It should be understood that the Agreement in the packing house industry was between certain labor organizations and the Mediation Commission on the one hand, and the employing packers and the Mediation Commission on the other; that the present dispute is over the termination of this Agreement and subsequent changes in working conditions; that the issue which impelled the Secretary of Labor to offer mediation has been raised by the same labor organizations through their refusal to accept the changed conditions. It is therefore proper, and the only course the Department of Labor could pursue, to invite representatives of these organizations to meet the Secretary of Labor in an endeavor to reach an adjustment.

With no wish to exclude any employe, or group of employes, from presenting pertinent view points, it is felt that the introduction of any other issue than that raised by the organizations referred to, would render more difficult the task of bringing to this industry a better feeling of good will and cooperation between employers and employes.

Feeling sure that you will understand the reasons given above for confining the coming conference, the 21st instant, to the representatives already chosen, I am

~~Very truly yours,~~

~~Secretary of Labor~~

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

March 18, 1921.

Memorandum :

From: The Director of Negro Economics
To: The Assistant Secretary
Subject: Functions and work of Negro Economics Advisory Service.

I. Underlying Facts of the Work:

There are four cardinal facts which have been given due consideration in the development of this work:

1. The two races are thrown together in their daily work, the majority of the employers and a large number of the employees having relations with Negro employees being white persons. These conditions give rise to misunderstandings, prejudices, antagonisms, fears, and suspicions. These facts must be recognized and dealt with in a statesmanlike manner.

2. The problems are local in character, arising, as they do, between local employers and local employees. The people, however, in local communities, need the vision of national policies, plans, and standards to apply to their local situations.

3. Any plan or program should be based upon the desire and need of cooperation between white employers and representatives of Negro wage earners, and, wherever possible, white wage earners.

4. Negroes constitute about one tenth of the total population of the United States and about one seventh of the working population gainfully employed. They have been migrating increasingly in large numbers from the rural districts to urban centers and from the South to the North for more than forty years.

Therefore, it is reasonable and right that they be accorded representation from their ranks, in counsel, when matters affecting them are being considered and decided.

These facts being true it is evident that the adjustment of millions of uneducated wage earners from rural regions to town life and from agricultural work to industrial work, as well as the readjustments

in agricultural regions due to the increasing migration from the rural districts to the urban centers during the past fifty years is a tremendous task, even without the serious racial and sectional complications that have arisen.

The efforts of the Department of Labor, therefore, in dealing with the relations of Negro workers, white workers, and employers widely affect the economic interests of the entire Nation and are of vital concern to employers, white workers, and the public-at-large no less than to Negro wage-earners. Cooperation, mutual understanding, goodwill and tolerance are the best and only principles that will promote the interests of all concerned.

II. Some Problems of Negro Labor:

Practically every question which arises, like that connected with the coal miners, the steel workers and the meat-packing employees, involves considerable numbers of Negro workers and raises problems of their relations to white workers and employers. In addition there are some special problems more directly related to the internal affairs of Negroes and their relations to employers. Among them are the following:

1. The thousands of Negro workers in war industries who had to be shifted back to post-war industries along with the other workers call for special attention similar to the period when they were being shifted into war industries.

2. Probably between 400,000 and 500,000 workers migrated from the South to northern industries. The difficulties of cooperative adjustment of white wage earners and Negro wage earners in the industrial communities where they must find community life in contact with each other were increased.

3. Special problems connected with the entrance of colored women into industry and special problems in domestic and personal service arise from time to time.

4. The problems of improving the conditions, increasing the efficiency, and encouraging the thrift of Negro workers were probably greater during the war and still remain as reconstruction problems.

5. In the South the common interests of white employers who want to engage the services which the Negro wage earner has to offer and the desire of the worker for wages in return make the adjustment of the Negro labor situation one of the most far-reaching factors in bringing about just and amicable race relations. The migration and war restlessness of the two races creates problems which the labor nexus may be very effective in settling.

6. The adjustment of farm tenantry and of the labor situation in the South is very largely a problem of Negro labor.

7. The improvement of living and working conditions, including such questions as housing, sanitation, and recreation of Negro wage earners, should receive more attention during this period of reconstruction and peace time than they did before or during the Great War period.

III. Functions of the Work:

In the development of this work of the Negro Economics Service its staff has been called upon to advise and inform the Secretary and the several chiefs and employees of the bureaus and divisions of the Department in all matters, such as policies, plans, personnel, etc., affecting Negroes and their relations with white workers and employers. The Secretary also approved the policy of furnishing advice and information to individuals, employers, and organizations, to the end that cooperation, mutual understanding and goodwill might be promoted through such mediation and conciliation.

The Secretary defined the functions of this service in the following words:

"Staff employees dealing with Negro wage-earners, although not being removed from the authority and instructions of chiefs of divisions to which they are rendering service, act under the general supervision and authority of the Director of Negro Economics, with the agreeable understanding and approval of the chiefs of their respective divisions;"

and that

"It be clearly understood that there is no desire or intention to establish a dual direction of the staff employees dealing with Negro wage-earners;"

but that

"The purpose is to secure the advice of the Director of Negro Economics before any work dealing with Negro wage-earners is undertaken, and to keep him advised of the progress of such work so that the Department may have the benefit of his judgment in all matters affecting Negroes."

The Director of Negro Economics is under the personal supervision of the Secretary and does not have departmental executive author-

ity.

In carrying out these functions it developed that the Director of Negro Economics needed assistants and field agents through whom he might gather and furnish information and advice, and might keep in touch with the local fields for purposes of mediation and conciliation. This field service has been furnished in two ways:

1. Staff employees of divisions or bureaus, with the consent and under the direction of their respective chiefs, have cooperated in furnishing service to the Director of Negro Economics.

2. Special agents or employees have been detailed to the Secretary's office for service under the immediate supervision of the Director of Negro Economics.

IV. Field Organization:

The field organization has suffered severely in the past eighteen months because there have been no funds available for the necessary staff employees to keep in touch with local fields. The following, however, is the plan as successfully carried out during about the first eighteen months of the work, some parts of which plan are still operating as far as touch can be kept with the local fields by correspondence of limited character with reliable persons.

1. Negro Workers' Advisory Committees, composed of representatives of the white employers, Negro workers, and, wherever possible, white workers, were formed during the War, in eleven states. County committees and city committees were appointed by the Department of Labor under state committees, with local endorsements. Most of the personnel of such committees had the sanction of local governmental officials. These committees were formed after the holding of joint conferences of white and colored representatives, which conferences were called either by the Governors of the states or with the consent and cooperation of the Governors, the Councils of National Defense, or other official or semi-official local authorities. Here and there some of these committees have taken on local connections or have been reorganized under local leadership and without further connection with this Department.

Through these committees, however, we have listed more than 1,000 able and responsible white and colored citizens in the most strategic labor centers in these eleven states, and through them, as correspondents, we have from time to time kept informed, as far as volunteer and informal correspondence can do, of the local labor conditions.

2. Staff employees have worked along the lines of two purposes: (a) To act in a mediative and conciliatory capacity in developing local contacts between white workmen, colored workmen, employers and citizens, thus assisting them in dealing with their local racial-labor problems; and (b) To make investigations and studies so as to keep the office of the Secretary fully informed of Negro economic conditions and relations and their changing aspects in the several communities.

During the past eighteen months, with the exception of an occasional special agent for short-time investigations, this office has had no field staff. This has been a very serious handicap in making the work effective and serviceable.

3. When one was in existence, the plan of utilizing the field staff was to place the agents, called supervisors of Negro Economics, by states with official relations with the local state labor authorities and with the U. S. Employment State Director when that service had such officials. This enabled these staff employees to keep in very close touch with local people and local labor conditions. Their work was highly efficient and satisfactory, as shown by numerous testimonials from white and colored people. (For samples see pp. 22-25 of "The Negro at work during the World War and during Reconstruction," accompanying this memorandum.) Experience shows that localizing the activities in this way was very pleasing and acceptable to the people in the several states like Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Mississippi and North Carolina when the work was in operation.

We have considered that in the reestablishment of a field staff from now on it should be taken under advisement whether or not it would be more economical and just as effective to have the field agents work out from Washington as headquarters. This is a matter for further counsel.

V. Samples of work done through Negro Workers' Advisory Committees and supervisors of Negro Economics during the War:

For samples of work done by Negro Worker's Advisory Committees under the field staff during the War and during the first eight months of Reconstruction, see Chapters IX to XVII (pp. 64-115) of the accompanying copy of the Second Study on Negro Labor entitled, "The Negro at work during the World War and during Reconstruction."

VI. Work on Hand:

1. Distribution of the Second Study on Negro Labor to lists of persons in all parts of the United States who have been actively interested in the past in connection with the work of the office, and to persons now sending in requests by mail.

2. In cooperation with the Women's Bureau the completion of a special study on Negro women in industry in 1920, to ascertain how far the shift of Negro women from domestic and personal service into industry shows signs of permanence since the War, as this has been one of the outstanding problems of the relations of Negro labor to white labor and employers.

3. Brief general investigation, at selected points in one county in Ohio and two counties in West Virginia of typical conditions surrounding the children of Negro workers. The report is in course of preparation. The investigation was incomplete because of limited funds.

4. Preparation of a course of study and report on Negroes in industrial plants for the Committee on Americanization and Unskilled Labor of the National Association of Corporation Training. The National Association of Corporation Training is made up of representatives of about 500 leading industrial firms in the U. S. The Director of Negro Economics, by invitation, is a member of the above-mentioned committee of that Association.

5. Promotion of probable conference training courses at Hampton Institute and Tuskegee Institute for Negro industrial welfare workers and assistant personnel directors of Negroes in industrial plants. The proposal is to hold the first of these courses at each of these two institutions the coming Summer.

6. The collation and analysis of advance data available from other bureaus and departments, especially the Census Bureau, with reference to Negro labor in agriculture, and especially the shifting of Negro labor in industry, especially in the North.

7. Information and advice to the Secretary and to heads of bureaus and divisions on problems involving Negro workers now being handled by them.

8. Information and advice to members of organizations and individuals interested in Negro labor, either in conference or by correspondence.

Salary

VII. Present Personnel:

*George E. Haynes

Director

**\$9.50 per diem

*On roll of Division of Conciliation, Office of the Secretary, and detailed to the Secretary's Office.

**So stipulated because of requirements of Conciliation roll.

Travel:

George E. Haynes - Note: Travel used as authorized; no specific allotment at present, and work is seriously handicapped thereby

- - -

Salary

Karl F. Phillips Assistant and Special Agent \$1,500 p. a.

Children's Bureau - Detailed to the Secretary's Office.

- - -

Travel:

Karl F. Phillips - Note: The Children's Bureau has allotted \$500.00 for the period ending June 30, 1921. Of this amount \$115.76 has been expended.

- - -

Salary

Mattie L. Campbell Clerk \$1,000 p. a.

Bureau of Labor Statistics - Detailed to the Secretary's Office.

- - -

Salary

Emma L. Shields Special Agent \$5.00 per diem

Women's Bureau - Detailed to the Secretary's Office.

This special agent is now on per diem with the Women's Bureau on a detail to the Secretary's office for completion of the special study on Negro women in industry, 1920. She has worked thirteen days during February and March, 1921. She was formerly a full-time employee, but lack of funds compelled present per diem arrangement, although further work is badly needed.

Travel:

Emma L. Shields - Note: No travel expenses at present provided while completing report as a per diem employee.

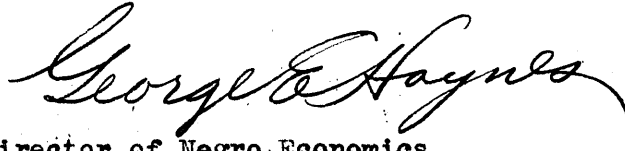
Not only for the amount of work we are now carrying, but for frequent demands for information and advice which the office cannot furnish this staff is very inadequate and is accomplishing the work performed as well as that performed in the past only by overtime, and often under the great pressure for the best interests of the service.

VIII. Summary:

This outline of the underlying facts, problems, functions, field organization, work already accomplished, work on hand, and present personnel only emphasizes the far-reaching importance of this work of the Secretary's office and of the Department, and the big opportunity open for promoting cooperation, mutual understanding, goodwill and tolerance between Negro workers, white workers, employers and the public-at-large.

I earnestly hope that when the present pressure is over the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary will give opportunity for full conference on matters relating to further policies, plans and funds for this work.

Respectfully submitted,



Director of Negro Economics.

h
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Bulletin accompanying.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

March 18, 1921.

MEMORANDUM TO THE SECRETARY

Thru the Assistant Secretary and Director of Conciliation.

Reliable information has just been received about the American Unity Labor League of Chicago mentioned in the Associated Press dispatches in connection with stockyards, which states that this organization is headed by a Negro, name R.E. Parker, connected with the Chicago Advocate, a minor Negro newspaper, and that the organization is of little consequence. This came by telegraph and I hope to have fuller report by mail giving details. On the basis of the telegram, however, it seems to me that this organization may be discounted in your consideration of the facts as the man Parker, of whom I have previous record, has little standing in Chicago and relatively little influence among Negroes and I think the opinion of my informant that the organization is inconsequential is trustworthy.

Respectfully submitted,

George E. Haynes

Director of Negro Economics.

H/LIC

*Noted and transmitted
E. J. T. Sec.*

The Fort Valley High and Industrial School

Fort Valley, Georgia

INCORPORATED

For The Training of Colored Young Men and Women

REFERENCES:

RT. REV'D. H. J. MIKELL
627 W. PEACHTREE ST., ATLANTA, GA.

MR. GEO. FOSTER PEABODY
43 EXCHANGE PLACE, N. Y.

MR. THEODORE J. LEWIS
1218 CHESTNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

JUDGE H. A. MATHEWS
FORT VALLEY, GA.

FORT VALLEY, GA.

March 21, 1921

Hon. James J. Davis,
Secretary of Labor,
Washington, D.C.

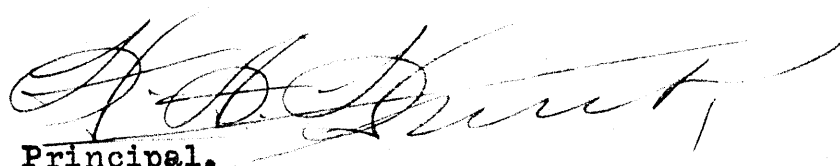
Sir:

During the war and since that time I have had opportunity to observe some of the work and results of the Negro Economics and Advisory Service under the direction of the Secretary of Labor. In my opinion this work was worth a great deal in the way of educating Negro workers and their employers and resulted in bringing about a better understanding between them. It helped the Negro to understand as many had not before the value of their work and the need for sticking to their tasks regularly and faithfully. It helped the employer also to see the wisdom of encouraging Negroes to give better service. I feel sure that the Negro Economics Service was valuable also in bringing about more cordial relations between white and Negro workers.

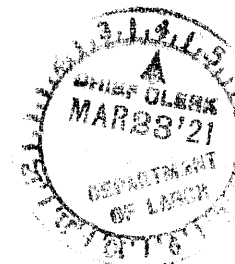
From my observation of the results accomplished by the Negro Workers Advisory Committee, I am very strongly of the opinion that it would be a good thing for the country if the work of this Committee could be continued.

I am

With great respect,



Principal.



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

March 24, 1921.

M e m o r a n d u m :

To: The Secretary and the Assistant Secretary
From: The Director of Negro Economics
Subject: Supplemental statement to memorandum of March 18, 1921,
on functions and work of Negro Economics Service.

Complying with the verbal instructions of the Assistant Secretary for information about the Negro Economics service, I submitted memorandum of March 18, 1921, on its functions and work as they have developed. On pages 98 to 106 of the accompanying copy of "Hearings before the Subcommittee on Appropriations, United States Senate, on the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Appropriation Bill, 1922," is given this subcommittee's discussion about funds for the work.

I respectfully mention, in brief, three of the points covered, which I trust you will be pleased to consider in conference:

I. The efforts previously made to give an effective information and advisory service to the Secretary and the several bureaus and divisions of the Department and to perform a conciliatory service in dealing with the problems of Negro workers and of their relations to white workers and employers are not and have not been efforts to establish a separate Negro Economics bureau. (See pp. 102 and 104 of the Hearings.) The work has been done in response to the initiative, the interest and active efforts of colored people themselves, of employers, of Congressmen, and others. (Note. The files of the Department - 8/102 - show the extent of this interest since 1918.)

The titles and designations are of only secondary importance. The Secretary and the several bureaus and divisions of the Department have found the information and advice of the work very necessary, and employers and employees have found the mediative and conciliatory service quite helpful. (See pp. 102 and 104 of the "Hearings", letter of the Secretary). Such service can best be performed by Negroes who know the internal life of their people and are competent to interpret it to the Secretary, the Department, and the Public. (See p. 99).

The Department of Labor has the opportunity to promote large constructive measures through such an informative, advisory, and mediatory effort to deal with existing conditions and thus develop cooperation,

goodwill and mutual understanding and tolerance between white workers, Negro workers and employers. (p. 106)

II. The service performed touches and works in cooperation with the several divisions and bureaus of the Department as a function of the Secretary's office and is not confined to the work of any one bureau. (pp. 102, 105)

III. While the sentiment of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee was against making any special designation of funds for Negroes, they expressed the view that an equitable allotment of funds for such work may properly be made by the Secretary from the appropriations made to the Department. (See pp. 105 and 106 for statements of Senators Smoot and Warren.)

At various times the work has come to the attention of several senators and congressmen who have expressed themselves in favor of such an apportionment of funds.

It is my earnest desire to assist in such ways as the Secretary approves in working this matter out in harmony with his plans and policies for the Department.

Respectfully submitted,

George E. Haynes
Director of Negro Economics.

h
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March 25, 1921.

INDEXED.

Prof. H. A. Hunt, Principal,
The Fort Valley High and Industrial School,
Fort Valley, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of March 21st,
in which you refer to the work of the Bureau of Negro
Economics in this Department and recommend its contin-
uance. I am glad to have your letter and the informa-
tion contained therein, and assure you the matter will
receive my careful consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Exact copy as signed by James J. Davis
Mailed 3-25 By *[Signature]*
Secretary.

H

STUDY: INDUSTRIES AND OCCUPATIONS IN WHICH THE COLORED POPULATION OF NEW YORK, N. Y., IS ENGAGED.

Schedule II—Section A—Questionnaire—To be filled out by the pupils or the parents of pupils of the New York, N. Y., schools.

A. Give name _____ and address _____
of person filling out this questionnaire and state whether such person is a *parent* (or guardian) or a **pupil**.

B. Give date of completion of questionnaire _____ 1921.

1. Give name, address, age, and sex of each wage-earner in your family, living at the same address at which you live.

Investigator Parents

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE	SEX

2. Give the name and business address of the individual or firm which employs each of the above-named persons.

NAME OF WAGE EARNER	NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER

C o p y

423 Beale Avenue,
Memphis, Tenn., May 7, 1921.

Hon. Phil H. Brown,
Commissioner of Conciliation,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Brown:

I enclose a clipping from the Memphis Press which speaks for itself. As I told you in a previous letter, the conspiracy to drive Negro trainmen out of the service was started by an employee of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, at Newport News, several months ago. There must reside somewhere in the Federal authority power to run down such a conspiracy and to apprehend and punish the murderers who have hit upon the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley branch of the Illinois Central Railroad as the point most secure from which to do their intimidation business by systematic murder. The State authorities and the Illinois Central authorities both declared in the two cases previous to the present one that they could not locate the murderers. That is nonsense.

The Yazoo branch is an interstate railroad. If the Government can regulate passenger and traffic service as between States it should be able to take cognizance of a conspiracy to murder citizens of one or other of the tri-state group, who are pursuing their usual employment, and whom the State authorities, it has been shown, take no interest in protecting or avenging when they have been systematically murdered.

I leave for New York tonight.

With kind regards and best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

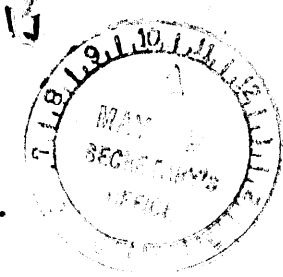
(Signed) T. Thos. Fortune.

This matter, I dare say, you may deem it expedient to fetch to the attention of the Secretary.

*noted by Sec
acc*

P/102

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON



May 9, 1921.

Memorandum : Through the Assistant Secretary

From: Phil H. Brown, Commissioner of Conciliation
To: The Secretary
Subject: Reprisals - colored trainmen - Memphis, Tenn., district.

Law

Permit me to submit the appended copy of a letter from T. Thomas Fortune, veteran colored newspaperman, enclosing clipping from the Memphis, Tenn., Evening Press (white), dated May 6, 1921, bearing upon the mysterious murder of Henry Hager, a Negro brakeman on the Illinois Central Railroad. As this is the third killing of Negro brakemen under similar conditions within as many months, in the same locality, opinion obtains that it is a form of reprisal against colored railway employees who have recently organized into a separate fraternity for their own betterment. Along with this you will find the name and style of the colored organization, together with its officary.

Sundry reports from the section in which colored railroad brakemen operate, especially in sections where they have taken membership in this colored organization, indicate many forms of reprisals, threats, etc., perpetrated against them.

Without forming any conclusion, because of the absence of the facts, I respectfully submit that this gives a basis for investigation by the Department of Labor.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil H. Brown,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

b
p
Enclosures accompanying

Name: Association of Colored Railway Trainmen
Address: 907 Florida Street, Memphis
Officers: Pres., J. H. Biland
V. P. C. E. Henike
Grand Secretary, J. W. Jones,
Treas., Geo. H. Lewis.
Chairman Trustee Board, T. D. Redd.
Chairman Executive Board, C. T. Hullum.

✓ Status: In January, 1918, this organization was incorporated under the laws of Tennessee as The Colored Association of Railway Employees. As the membership embraced men in the Transportation Department only, and as a name was desired that would specify this particular craft, in June, 1920, the name was changed to The Association of Colored Railway Trainmen.

On March 31, 1921, the organization had a membership of 5,000, with fifty-five (55) local lodges located in thirteen (13) states of the Union.

Object: "To unite the Colored Railway Employees; to extend their interests and promote their general welfare; to provide aid and assistance to their families; to use legitimate and lawful means of harmonizing and rectifying differences between members of the Association and their employers."

The organization operates on the "Labor Union" plan, but does not issue insurance policies or pay sick benefits. It does pay \$100.00 as total disability and burial fund.

Grand Lodge Headquarters is located at 907 Florida St., Memphis, Tenn. The official staff consists of the following officers: Grand President, First, Second and Third Vice Presidents, Grand Treasurer, Grand Auditor, Grand Organizer; Grand Executive Board, comprising three members, and Grand Trustee Board, comprising three members.

NEGRO BRAKEMAN IS MYSTERIOUSLY KILLED ON TRAIN

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Volume XV, No. 155.

FRIDAY

MAY 6, 1921.

The Memphis

Third Victim in Sinister
War on I. C. Negroes

MOB BOARDS ENGINE

Train Stopped by Fusee
and Slayers Appear

The third mysterious murder of negro trainmen on the Illinois Central in as many months occurred early today when a freight train was halted 12 miles south of Memphis and Henry Hager, negro brakeman, riddled with bullets by unidentified men.

The freight train—No. 151, bound for Grenada, Miss.—had left Memphis at 3 a.m. and was nearing Raines, Tenn., 12 miles south, when Engineer Amos C. Hatch, 534 Edith st., was stopped by a red fusee burning on the track. A fusee is usually a danger signal, put out by a preceding train, and standing orders are to wait 10 minutes before passing it.

The brakeman was riding in the locomotive cab.

Barely had the train stopped when several men leaped aboard the engine and opened fire on Hager. He fell, mortally wounded. The men fled back into the darkness.

No effort was made to harm Engineer Hatch or his negro fireman, John Anderson, 863 S. Athens pl.

Hager's body was taken to Horn Lake, Miss., from whence it was brought to Memphis today.

This is the third negro brakeman to be killed by unidentified men recently. The first, Arthur Tyler, was taken from a train near Como, Miss., and riddled with 17 bullets, and Horace Hurd was shot five times at Lake Cormorant, Miss.

No trace of the slayers has been found.

The Memphis Press

Letter of authorization of survey.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of the Secretary
Washington

Copy.

September 13, 1921.

Mrs. Gertrude E. McDougald,
Secretary, Vocational Guidance Committee,
255 West 42nd Street,
New York, N.T..

My dear Mrs. McDougald:

After many tedious delays, to which the question of jurisdiction contributed, the Department of Labor has authorized the survey of New York covering the study of relative vocational placement. At the outset I desire to congratulate you and your Committee upon the initiation of this suggestion, the consummation of which promises much in useful information.

The survey will proceed upon the following general conditions:

1. It will be conducted entirely under the authority and by the direction of the Labor Department. We are advised by the Solicitor of this Department that we cannot otherwise proceed with the study in a legal manner. Consequently, it has been decided to place this work under the direct supervision of Mr. Karl F. Phillips, first assistant in this division, who will be on hand to supervise the work.

2. The entire cost of the survey will be borne by the Department independent of any cooperative contributions, which I am also advised is in conformance with the rules of the Department.

3. It is understood that Mr. Phillips will have the full support and advice of your organization in making the survey, which support contemplates such facts, figures and conclusions informative to the investigation that your Committee may possess.

4. That Mr. Phillips will be advised by the Department to surround himself with a working personnel, agreeable to you in a presumptive way, but thoroughly equipped to faithfully perform the service desired.

5. That the publication of the results and conclusion of the survey will be done by the Labor Department giving full credit to the Committee that you represent, as well as the School Government of New York, covering original suggestions, cooperation and association.

6. That the survey will begin immediately.

b
2.
We have designated Mr. Phillips advisedly owing to his rare experience and adaptability to this important work, and desire to bespeak for him your help, with the assurance that his fine tact and ability will serve your purpose and that of all concerned in a most acceptable manner.

Abiding your acknowledgment of this presentation, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Signed, Phil H. Brown,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

b
P
Copy to:
Mr. Chas. M. Smith,
Coordinator directing High School Placement,
5131 Livingston Street,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

U. S. Department of Labor
257 East 37th Street.
New York, N. Y.

New York, N. Y. - Occupations - Vocational Training

Schedule II: Industries and occupations engaging the
Colored Population of New York, N. Y.

Section B: Questionnaire - For FIRMS EMPLOYING COLORED WORKERS

1. What is the name _____ and address _____
of your firm?

2. What is the name _____ and description _____
of the person answering these questions?

3. Industry: Please give the industry in which your firm is en-
gaged.

4. Employment: A. Please give the following figures regarding
your employees:

Total number of employees _____
White employees _____
Colored employees _____

B. Please classify your employees as follows:

	Number of Skilled Employees	Number of Unskilled Employees	Number of Semi-skilled Employees
White	_____	_____	_____
Colored	_____	_____	_____

C. Please state the occupations in which colored
workers are employed; and give the number of colored workers
engaged in each occupation:

Occupations	Number of colored workers employed
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. Training, promotion and efficiency:

A. How many, if any, of your colored workers served an apprenticeship at your plant? _____

B. How many of your colored workers were trained in their trade or occupation in the public schools of New York? _____

C. How many were trained elsewhere? _____

D. Does the management promote colored workers from the unskilled to the semi-skilled and skilled trades? _____

E. Do the colored workers show ambition for advancement? _____

F. Is there any difference in the conduct and behavior, on the job, of your white and colored workers? _____

G. Please give general comments on quality and quantity of the work of your colored employees, comparing their general efficiency with the general efficiency of your other workers.

H. Please give list of occupations, if any, at your plant in which there are no colored workers engaged?

I. Are there any occupations within the plant to which trained, efficient colored workers may be advanced in the future?

Testimony to Employees of NY & C

U. S. Department of Labor

237 East 37th Street,

New York, N. Y.

November 9, 1921.

TO: INDUSTRIAL FIRMS AND EMPLOYERS OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

The U. S. Department of Labor, with a temporary office at the above address, is making a brief survey of occupations and placements in New York, N. Y. This survey has been instituted at the joint request of the New York Board of Education and the North Harlem Vocational Guidance Committee.

Among the topics under consideration is the one of "INDUSTRIES AND OCCUPATIONS ENGAGING THE COLORED POPULATION OF NEW YORK, N. Y." By the findings of the survey, it is expected that the Board of Education will be somewhat assisted in the future shaping of its Vocational and Trade Courses, in order to better prepare for employment the graduates of these courses.

As a further help in this effort, it is respectfully asked that you cooperate with the School Board and with this Department by having the enclosed questionnaire filled out by some responsible person of your firm, after which I shall thank you to return the questionnaire to this office, using the enclosed envelope, which requires no postage.

Thanking you, I am

Respectfully yours,

Karl Phillips

Karl F. Phillips,
In charge of New York Survey.

THE SURVEY OF COLORED WORKERS IN NEW YORK CITY.

1. The Immediate Need for the Survey.

To determine what agreement, if any, exists between the Industries engaged in by the Negroes of New York City, and the training being given therefor. To determine first, whether training or the lack of it; or, second, whether vocational opportunity or the lack of it contribute most to the problem which the Negro graduate faces when he is ready to take his vocational place in the world. This determined, scientific work in educational, guidance and placement fields can be substituted for the more or less guess methods now existing.

2. The Need.

A. Where disclosed:

In every effort to train and then find vocational outlet for the Negro graduate of elementary, trade and high schools in New York City.

B. By whom disclosed:

By Principals of the elementary, trade and high schools where any percentage of Negro students attend.

By CO-ordinators and Placement Secretaries in schools and agencies.

By Vocational Guidance Teachers in schools.

By Negro citizens looking toward the future.

3. The Value of the Survey.

A. As an aid to School Superintendents, in planning for the possible new courses and schools, whereby the Negro student may reap a larger benefit.

B. As a basis of information for Placement Secretaries in the effort to raise the present low percentage of placement of Negro graduates.

C. As an aid in the effort to open new fields of vocational opportunity for the Negro graduate.

D. To furnish up-to-date information which the Vocational Guide passes along to the Negro student, to guide him in the choice of further training.

E. As an assurance to Negro citizens that public agencies are fulfilling to all citizens alike, their obligations in constructive public work undertaken.

4. The Procedure.

The North Harlem Vocational Guidance Committee, organized by Negro citizens, summarized the facts and the need, and brought to the attention of the Board of Education this need for a larger effort for the Negro student of N.Y.C.. The fact that N.Y.C. now has the largest number of Negroes living in any one community in the world, makes the significance of this need even more apparent. The Dept. of Labor, through its Negro representative, Mr. Phil Brown was asked to consider the undertaking to make a survey, as the first step in constructive work. After careful consideration of such details as jurisdiction of the Dept. of Labor to make such a survey, questions of budget and control, in all of which the Committee and the Board of Education's Officials were consulted, the Survey was authorized by the Dept. of Labor, at Wash., and Mr. Brown's first assistant was sent to N.Y.C. on Oct. 1st to take charge. The expenses of office space, with light and (space) heat as well as telephone service, facilities for the printing of any material necessary, and the services of the experts in the Educational Bureau of Record and Research for the purpose of tabulating and summarizing, were

contributed by the Board of Education of N.Y.C., during the two months that Mr. Phillips remained in the city. The Dept. of Labor was therefor under the minimum expense of paying the salaries of two clerical assistants, and the incidental expenses of their expert, Mr. Phillips. The salary of the latter is not to be stressed here as that salary continues the same whether the expert works in N.Y.C. or elsewhere. ON Nov. 1921, Mr. P. Phillips was recalled to Washington and instructed to finish the work from there. Every one concerned emphatically realizes that scientific and reliable results cannot be obtained. The worker must be in the field to check up results after the information has been received through questionnaires. The Committee has so written Mr. Brown but has as yet received no communication from him. Mr. Phillips recall was worded that the Assistant Secretary of Labor had so directed. (see enclosure)

5. Progress made.

A. Connections and co-operation established.

B. Through the N.Y. Census Committee, advance releases made available, and free use granted of maps. The districts were obtained where any number of Negro people live. This was in preparation for sending out questionnaires.

C. Questionnaires prepared by the expert and printed by the Board of Education.

1. To about 4000 employers of N.Y.C.. (Now being received in Wash.)

2. To the parents of Negro school children (As yet not sent through the schools)

3. To Principals of Trade and High Schools. (Still in abeyance)

6. Work still to be Accomplished.

A. The checking up, through personal follow-up of a certain percentage of questionnaires, to verify the facts as stated by employers and parents.

B. Summarizing and drawing conclusions. Conferences with local workers essential in this part of the work.

C. Interpreting the industrial policies and the educational procedure of the past.

D. Drawing up recommendations for the future, in the light of the findings.

Respectfully submitted,

Gertrude E. McDougald.

Gertrude E. McDougald,
Secretary,

North Harlem Vocational Guidance Committee.

Jan. 3, 1922.

208 West 134th Street,
New York, January 4th, 1922.

Hon. William Calder,
United States Senator,
Washington, D. C..
Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find an outline of the facts in the matter of the interruption of the Department of Labor's Survey of the Negro Workers in New York City and the Training being given in the Public Schools. Copies of the letter of authorization of Survey and the letter of recall of Mr. Phillips, as well as samples of the questionnaires to parents of Negro students and to firms employing Negro workers, are also enclosed.

Mr. Brown, through Mr. Phillips will be able to furnish you with the plan of the Survey, giving the details of the proposed inquiry into the courses being given in Trade and High Schools.

Appreciating your interest, and hoping that success may soon attend your efforts to have the Survey finished in the best way, I am,

Very truly yours,

Gertrude E. McDougald

Gertrude E. McDougald,
Secretary,

North Harlem Vocational Guidance Committee.

Copies sent to Mr. Anson.

579 11

8/102

January 7, 1922.

Mrs. Gertrude E. McDougald, Sec'y,
North Harlem Vocational Guidance Committee,
208 West One Hundred and Thirty-fourth St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Madam:

Senator William M. Calder, of your State called to see me personally in response to your letter addressed to him on January 4, concerning the status of the survey of relative vocational placement in New York City, now being conducted by this Department in connection with your committee and the Board of Education in New York.

Permit me to say that the survey has by no means been abandoned; on the contrary, it is being pushed forward diligently, and during the month of December upward of 2,000 answers have been received from selected industries employing colored people in New York bearing upon the information sought.

However, the offices in New York was discontinued, partly in the interest of economy, which we find extremely necessary to practice, and otherwise because the contacts necessary to obtaining the data had been established in such a manner that the survey could proceed, as is the custom with the Department, by questionnaires sent through the mails.

We are anticipating some useful information from this survey of special value in the formation of vocative programs in public schools throughout the country, and I take pleasure in writing you to relieve you of any misapprehension in reference to its completion.

Bespeaking your continued cooperation with the plans of this survey, I am

Very truly yours,

Secretary

January 18, 1922.

Hon. James W. Wadsworth, Jr.,
United States Senator,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Senator:

I am returning the correspondence that you sent to me on the 12th. If we can get sufficient money, we will be able to consider additional appropriations for this work.

Sincerely yours,

Encl.

C H

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

Respectfully referred to

Mr. Kerwin

by direction of the Secretary.

ARTHUR E. COOK,
Private Secretary.

*Please prepare
after conference
reply as ~~by~~ ~~refer~~
~~with~~ ~~Calder~~
for Secy's signature*

One God! One Aim! One Destiny!

PARENT BODY

Universal Negro Improvement Association

AND

African Communities League

MARCUS GARVEY

President General

Sir R. L. POSTON, K.C.O.N.

Secretary General

Sir WM. H. SHERRILL, K.C.D.S.O.E.

Asst. Pres. Gen'l

UNIVERSAL BUILDING

56 WEST 135TH STREET

Sir CLIFFORD S. BOURNE, K.C.D.S.O.E.

Chancellor

NEW YORK, U. S. A.

THOS. W. ANDERSON

Asst. Sec'y General

"He created of one blood all nations of man to dwell on the face of the earth."



October 4, 1923.

Hon. John J. Davis,
Secretary of Labor,
Washington, D.C.

Honorable Sir:

I am charged with the duty and responsibility of writing to you on a subject which I feel that you are interested in because of your high and elevated position in the Nation, and because of your humanitarianism, which is felt to be beyond question. The subject is that of the Negro problem as it confronts us, not only in America, but in the world.

There is a deep and earnest desire on the part of some of the world's most forward looking statesmen to make an immediate effort for the settlement of the perplexing and grievous question of race. We in America should not delay the settlement of this great question, because it cannot settle itself.

The Universal Negro Improvement Association, an organization of six million scattered members of which I am President-General, is working for a solution of the problem through the founding and establishing in Africa of a nation for Negroes, where the race will be given the fullest opportunity to develop itself such as we may not expect in countries where we form but a minority in a majority Government of other races.

There is no doubt that the 20th century Negro in America is different from the Negro of the last century. To-day he is forward looking and ambitious. He is the product of our best schools, colleges and universities. With his training, he is not prepared to be satisfied as a secondary consideration in the social, economic and political life of the nation. By his ambition, he is aspiring to the highest in political office, and industrial position. This under the Constitution cannot be reasonably denied him; but in the midst of a majority race that is not inclined to allow the minority to enjoy the benefits of the best that the nation affords, we have the great problem that must be solved.

All communications must be sent to the Association and not to Individuals.

All Money Orders must be made payable to U. N. I. A.

It is not the humanitarians of the white race that the Negro fears, nor those who are broad-minded enough to consider the rights of man regardless of color, but it is for the great mass that does not think in the higher terms of humanity, but who are guided purely and simply by their economic, social and political relationship to others.

We of the Universal Negro Improvement Association, after having taken into consideration the impossibility of the liberal and humanitarian few to curb successfully the passion of the great mass, are endeavoring to create sentiment among the fifteen million Negroes of America and other parts of the world, as to lead them to see that the only and best solution for the race problem, is for us to have a nation of our own in Africa, whereby we would not be regarded in countries like America, as competitors of the white race for the common positions in politics, industry and society, but that we would be regarded as a people striving in our own country to present to the world a civilization and culture of our own. Knowing that you must have some feeling on a question like this, led the Universal Negro Improvement Association to direct me to write to you, asking for a frank and open opinion of our program. The opinion that you give will be kept private if you so desire, or may be used if you so feel inclined. Your wishes in this matter shall be respected in every particular.

The following symposium is therefore submitted to you most respectfully asking that you be good enough to answer each question in conjunction with this communication, so that we may be able to judge how much sympathy there is among the leaders of the white race in this country, as touching the effort we are making for the solution of the vexed problem of race that confronts us in America.

SYMPOSIUM

1. Do you believe the Negro to be a human being?
2. Do you believe the Negro entitled to all the rights of humanity?
3. Do you believe that the Negro should be encouraged to develop a society of his own, that is for social intercourse, and marrying within his own race?
4. Do you believe that the Negro should be taught not to aspire to be the best imitation of the white man, but the best product of himself?
5. Do you believe that the Negro should be taught not to aspire to the highest political positions in Governments of the white race but to positions among his own race in a Government of his own?
6. Do you believe that the Negro should have a Government of his own in Africa?

7. Would you help morally or otherwise to bring about such a possibility?
8. Do you believe that the Negro should be encouraged to aspire to the highest industrial and commercial positions in the countries of the white man in competition with him, and to his exclusion?
9. Do you believe that the Negro should be encouraged to create positions of his own in industry and commerce in a country of his own with the privilege of trading with the other races of the world?
10. Do you believe that the Negro should be encouraged to regard and respect the rights of all other races in the same manner as other races would respect the rights of the Negro?
11. Should five or six million or any large number of Negroes in the United States of America desire a repatriation to Africa for the peaceful building up of a country of their own, or for the settlement of such countries as are established among Negroes without any serious handicap to the industries of America, would you assist in this direction?

It is felt that you will give deep consideration to this communication, and receive it in the spirit in which it is written--that of a desire to settle amicably a vexed question.

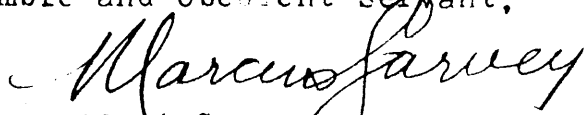
I am forwarding you along with this letter, a copy of the book "Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey", and a copy of the September 1923 Number of the Magazine "Current History", in which appear three articles on the Negro question in America, -- one written by the writer of this letter.

In the book "Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey", you will also find attached a reprint of a magazine article under the caption "An appeal to the soul of White America". I am asking that you read the book and the articles, not with the eye of prejudice, but with the feeling of justice, in that the articles were written by a Negro from the viewpoint of a Negro, as he feels, on a question that deeply affects him.

Knowing your broadness of vision, and your liberality of soul, leads me to feel that you will judge the subject matter of the book with fairness to the race.

With very best wishes, and hoping for an immediate reply, I have the honor to be,

Your humble and obedient servant,


resident-General
UNIVERSAL NEGRO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION.

COPY

from

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Record Group No. 174

Additional Information

General Records of the Department of Labor

Entry 1 NC-58

General Files. 1907-42

"Chief Clerk's Files"

8/102 - F

The original letter has been transferred
to Finding Aids Box # 4 for RB-174
due to the poor physical condition of the

original.

J.M.H.

9-28-84

Consumers' League of Western Pennsylvania

AN ORGANIZATION FOR THE BETTERMENT OF CONDITIONS FOR WORKING WOMEN AND CHILDREN THROUGH ORGANIZED AND RESPONSIBLE ACTION OF CONSUMERS

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PITTSBURGH, PA.

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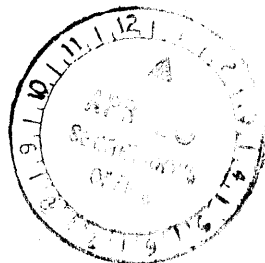
Hon. James J. Davis,
Secretary of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:-

The February number of the "Liberator" contained an article on the "Black Millions", I think that is the title, - which to my mind reveals a very serious situation. No doubt you or some of your staff has taken cognizance of the article, but it was issued when you were busy fighting the radicals at the United Mine Workers convention, and I have thought so much about it that I am relieving my mind by writing you.

The article in question commends the race riot in Washington of some two or three years ago. It also expresses an avowed intention of capturing the meeting of colored educators to be held in Chicago in May and annexing it to the "Workers Party". The report of an address or sermon delivered at Howard University, which was printed in the Congressional Record during the debate on the appropriation for the University, only strengthens my opinion that the situation regarding the colored race and the Workers Party is serious enough to deserve close watching.

Having been interested, and working along industrial lines for many years, the names as well as the activities of many of the radicals are familiar to me, and I get the Liberator to know what they are doing, but I have difficulty in getting it, as but few numbers are on sale here, and quickly snatched up.



April 15, 1931



Consumers' League of Western Pennsylvania

AN ORGANIZATION FOR THE BETTERMENT OF CONDITIONS FOR WORKING WOMEN AND CHILDREN THROUGH ORGANIZED AND RESPONSIBLE ACTION OF CONSUMERS

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MRS. FREDERICK CRABTREE
MRS. DAVID KIRK
MRS. JOHN H. BRICKER
MISS LAURA D. REDICK

If this is an intrusion, kindly pardon it. Thought I might have a chance to see you during your recent stay in Pittsburgh, but failed.

Respectfully yours,

Laura D Redick -

April 28, 1924.

Miss Laura D. Redick,
Executive Secretary,
Consumers' League of Western Pennsylvania,
977 Union Trust Building,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

My dear Miss Redick:

Thanks for your generous and interesting expression on the negro situation, which is conveyed in your letter of the 15th. You are in close touch with this situation and your letter has been brought to the attention of our Government representative for the Colored Race.

Always glad to have any news of any sort from you.

Sincerely yours,

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

April 18, 1924.

Memorandum for Mr. Kerwin:

Attached hereto, please find the February and March (1924) issues of "The Liberator," containing the article entitled "The Black Ten Millions," mentioned in Miss Redick's letter of April 15th, which is also attached.

I am unacquainted with the author, Robert Minor, and do not know to what race he belongs. His article is painstakingly written and shows a deal of research work. In his conclusions, however, Mr. Minor deals with "exceptions" rather than "rules." Hence, the article is replete with incorrect conclusions, some of which I am taking the liberty of pointing out, after stating the following "Foreword":

Foreword:

Radical School.-- Mr. Minor is undoubtedly a full-fledged member of the so-called "radical" school of the Negro group, headed by Chandler Owen, A. Philip Randolph, Dr. Hubert Harrison, William Monroe Trotter, and a score of lesser lights, who are very bitter in their arraignment of "wrongs" in America. This school, which is also known as the "right wing" of the Negro group, is largely composed of young men and women of splendid educational attainments, and who, in the main, are being financed and urged onward by the Socialistic "Extremists". Their platform, which probably reached its greatest strength during the period 1916-1920, when mob psychology was rampant in the country, among all people, is rapidly weakening before the more logical thought and program of the so-called "Conservative" group, or "left wing" which is headed partly by politicians and by educators, such as Dr. Moton, Dr. Bulkley, William H. Lewis, and a number of strong organizations and fraternities, religious and otherwise. The conservative wing is functioning fairly well nowadays, and, I would say, outnumbers Mr. Minor's radical group about 100 to 1.

Sanhedrin:

This Chicago Conference (See photograph attached) was conducted among as fine a group of colored men and women as this country can furnish. True, it did not accomplish much; nor could much be expected other than increasing good will, better understanding, and stronger unity among our whole group.

Negro Leadership:

Negro leadership is undergoing a great and rapid change, on account of the gradual elimination of professional politicians by trained men who have a deal of race consciousness and very high ideals. The change will help both races in their efforts to live peacefully and progressively in the same country.

After Emancipation:

Mr. Minor shows a woeful lack of knowledge of the history of the Reconstruction Period, following the Civil War. Led by Thaddeus Stevens of Pennsylvania, and Charles Sumner of Massachusetts, Congress enacted a series of laws, including the Civil Rights Bill, for the complete emancipation of the Negro freemen. Even though the Civil Rights Bill was found unconstitutional by the U. S. Supreme Court, later events point to a crystallization of the sentiment, which was provoked at that time, to carry out the mandates of the U. S. Constitution. (See Samuel W. McCall's "Life of Thaddeus Stevens" -- Statesmen Series). Today, New York and Ohio have passed Civil Rights bills; West Virginia has enacted an anti-lynching law; and despite legislative adversities in the South, civic progress of the Negro people is improving, and without the aid of shot or shell, as is so vividly advocated by the "minority radical group".

Negro Labor South:

Negro labor South is largely as Mr. Minor has pictured it; but interracial committees in that section are slowly ironing out the inequities and difficulties.

Social Equality:

I know of no Negroes who seek individual social equality. They do desire equal opportunity to work and to provide education and recreation for their children. They abhor intermarriage and are pained over the increasing number of mulattoes. Strange to say, this increase is greatest in the States which have strict miscegenation laws.

Industrial Permanency:

The industrial permanency of Negro labor, such as is now gradually becoming more and more noticeable, will make for the permanent happiness of the Race. It means increased business, the greater utilization of Negro artisans and professionals, and the complete education of Negro youth in every trade and profession. This ultimately means racial freedom and racial wealth. Racial freedom and racial wealth mean the ultimate production of commodities or the availability of services which the world wants. When this has been accomplished, Negroes will have gone a long way

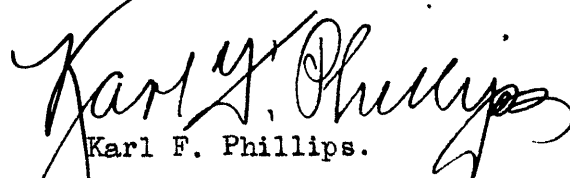
towards aiding in the solution of the much-talked of and over-exaggerated "problem."

Silk-Glove Policies:

Mr. Minor's remarks of "society" spokesmen are largely correct. He is right when he says that there are class clashes between the "uppers" and the "lowers" of the Negro group. In some of my own writings, I have ascribed this condition to "silk glove" inclinations which, unfortunately, are found among our group -- and in all groups. "Leadership" has been warned to lay aside aristocratic impulses in dealing with the masses of Negroes.

I can give positive details as to any of the statements made above.

Respectfully submitted,


Karl F. Phillips.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

May 2, 1924.



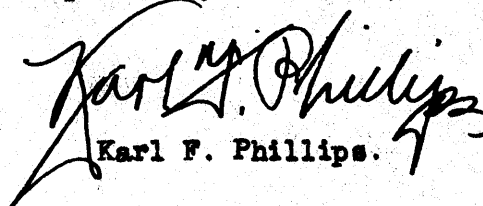
Memorandum for the Secretary:

Attached hereto please find copy of H. R. 3228, a bill to "create a Negro Industrial Commission," the substance of which was briefly discussed with me by Mrs. Mossell Griffin, Chairman of the Legislative Department of the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs. Mrs. Griffin explained that she had just come from a conference with you, to whom she had expressed the desire of her organization to prevent the passage of this bill, if possible; and that you heartily commended her on this purpose, promising such aid as you could give in an official way.

Mrs. Griffin expressed the wish that some one familiar with the functions of the Labor Department and the phases of the Negro labor situation appear with her before the House Judiciary Committee at its hearings on May 7 relative to the attached bill, and seemed to be under the impression that your office intended to assist her in throwing some light on the industrial situation.

In case it was your intention to assist Mrs. Griffin in this way and she was correct in drawing that inference from you, further instructions from, and a conference with you are respectfully requested, in view of the many matters, both hidden and apparent, which are interwoven with the entire situation.

Respectfully submitted,


Karl F. Phillips.

negro

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DECEMBER 13, 1923.

Mr. FOSTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

A BILL

To create a Negro Industrial Commission.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representu-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That there shall be created a Negro Industrial Commission,
4 which shall consist of five members, at least three of whom
5 shall be members of the Negro race, to be appointed by the
6 President of the United States, who shall hold office for
7 four years unless removed for good cause shown, and whose
8 position shall in no way be political; that they shall be
9 nonpartisan, and whose salary shall be fixed by the President
10 of the United States: *Provided, however,* That the salary
11 of each member shall not exceed \$5,000 per annum, except
12 in the case of the chairman, who shall be designated by the
13 President of the United States, and whose salary shall not
14 exceed \$7,000 per annum; that said commissioners shall be

1 entitled to the usual per diem and necessary expenses that
2 are usually allowed officers of the Government when absent
3 from their official station for the conduct of official business.

4 SEC. 2. That said commission is authorized to appoint
5 such necessary clerks, agents, or investigators, attorneys and
6 assistants as may be necessary for the conduct of the business
7 for which said commission is created, or such other work
8 that may be assigned to said commission by the President
9 of the United States, or any of the departments of the Gov-
10 ernment of the United States touching any problem or
11 matter affecting the Negro, whose salary shall be fixed by
12 the commission and approved by the chairman of said com-
13 mission.

14 SEC. 3. That said commission shall be provided by the
15 Secretary of the Treasury with suitable quarters in the city
16 of Washington, District of Columbia, for the transaction of
17 the business coming before said commission.

18 SEC. 4. That the duties of the Negro Industrial Com-
19 mission created by this Act shall be to study the economic
20 conditions of the Negro; to study the labor problems in
21 which the Negro is interested; to stimulate and encourage
22 thrift and industry among the Negroes of this country; to
23 promote the general welfare of the Negro in industrial pur-
24 suits; to give aid, and to encourage the general uplift of the
25 Negro; to work out plans for the solution of the different
26 problems confronting the Negro race of the United States;

1 to consider all questions pertaining to the Negro that may be
2 referred to said commission by any department of the United
3 States Government, and report the proper solution of any and
4 all problems that may be presented to the commission by any
5 officer of the United States, the governor or attorney general
6 of any of the States, or labor department of any State in the
7 United States; to investigate all labor questions that may
8 be referred to said commission by the governor of any State,
9 and to recommend what is necessary to regulate labor con-
10 ditions for the best interest of the communities in which
11 the labor questions may arise; to recommend what may be
12 necessary for the stability of labor in the different States;
13 to discourage Bolshevism wherever it may exist; to formulate
14 a policy for mutual understanding and confidence between
15 the races; to report to Congress through the President of the
16 United States all their acts and doings and to make such
17 recommendations for the solution of any problem or prob-
18 lems affecting the Negro that they may deem advisable.

19 SEC. 5. That for the purposes of the expenses of said
20 commission there shall be appropriated, out of any money in
21 the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated,
22 for the first year, the sum of \$200,000, or so much thereof as
23 may be necessary, to defray the expenses of this commission;
24 and there shall, every year thereafter, be appropriated by
25 Congress such sum as may be necessary to carry out the
26 work of said commission; that the expenses shall be paid out

rwT

1 of the money hereby appropriated, upon proper vouchers
2 approved by the chairman of said commission, including the
3 salaries of the commissioners.

4 SEC. 6. That all Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent
5 with this Act are hereby repealed, and this Act shall take
6 effect upon its passage and the approval of the President
7 of the United States.

68TH CONGRESS, }
1ST SESSION. } **H. R. 3228**

A BILL

To create a Negro Industrial Commission.

By Mr. FOSTER.

DECEMBER 13, 1923.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and
ordered to be printed.

ASSISTANT

RB 174
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etc

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

September 15, 1924.

Memorandum :

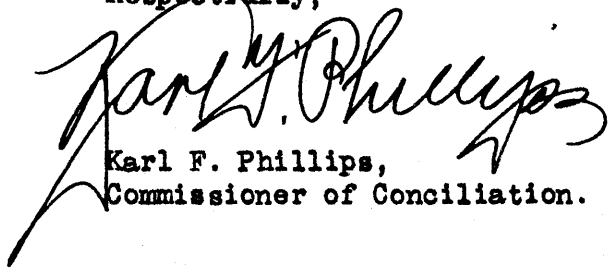
To: The Secretary

Transmitting --

1. Release in re Tuskegee Hospital
2. " " " Child Labor Legislation
3. Note " " Virgin Islands Commission
4. Memo. " " Weekly Release

The additional release, referred to by you this morning, relative to "outstanding" and other positions filled by Negro employees, I find, upon investigation, was previously compiled, printed, and thoroughly distributed over the country by another office, with which I am cooperating continually.

Respectfully,


Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

CHILD LABOR LEGISLATION
WOULD AFFECT NEGRO WORKERS.

Washington, _____.-- Child labor legislation is one of the gravest necessities which has ever confronted America's Negro population, for the future welfare of its children and their physical and mental condition, upon reaching maturity, will largely determine the type of citizenship which is to carry on the unfinished business of the present generation.

A glimpse of the work status of Negro children in the United States may be had in the following figures and percentages: Of the 12,502,582 children in the United States, 10 to 15 years of age, of whom 1,060,858, or 8.5 per cent, are engaged in gainful occupations, 1,450,996 of the total are Negro children of that age span, of whom 317,231, or 21.9 per cent, or more than two and one-half times the total per cent, are gainfully employed in American labor pursuits. Of this working group of 317,231, Negro boys constitute 191,877, or 26.7 per cent of their total, while Negro girls constitute 125,354, or 17.1 per cent of their total.

In comparison with other racial groups whose children are contributing to the output of American labor, the above percentages are astonishingly high. A stretch of the age span two more years makes a working group of Negro boys and girls totalling 541,348, of whom 405,570 are engaged in agricultural, forestry and animal husbandry pursuits; 44,198 in the manufacturing and mechanical industries; 10,855 in transportation occupations; 57,644 in domestic and personal service; 7,972 in clerical occupations; and the remainder in miscellaneous occupations.

Since Republican sponsors of a constitutional amendment have, in their full realization of the menace of unregulated child labor, deemed it necessary to forthwith prohibit or regulate the working conditions of American children, how essential it is to get behind this movement with all the loyalty and power at our command. Political history shows that practically all federal legislation for the benefit of women and children has been enacted by Republican Congresses, and that the bulk of opposition to such legislation has come, just as it is now, from the democrats.

In Tennessee, 17 per cent of the total child population is employed contrary to the standards set by the Government as to child-labor regulation; in Arkansas, 19 per cent; in Georgia, 21 per cent; in Alabama and South Carolina, 24 per cent; in Mississippi, 26 per cent. In the Republican states the percentage is much lower, and in the Pacific Coast states only three per cent of the total child population is employed in what is classified as gainful labor. Thirty states conform to the Federal standard of maximum hours for the employment of children eight hours per day. Of these thirty, only three are Democratic states. One Democratic state, North Carolina, permits children to be worked eleven hours a day, and another Democratic state, Georgia, has no limitation.

Education, recreation, health supervision, and other attentions are needed, not in any particular section of the country, but EVERYWHERE; and with a heavy population of Negro children busily at work in farm pursuits of Democratic states, which have been so derelict in their protection of Negro children, the duty is plain to see that at the polls full cooperation is given to the Republican party and its program, if it is ever to be hoped that the children of today may bloom into REAL MEN AND WOMEN OF TOMORROW.

TUSKEGEE HOSPITAL SUCCEEDS

UNDER NEGRO PERSONNEL.

Washington, _____.— Approximately four hundred of Uncle Sam's valiant fighters of World War experience are receiving their Government's medical skill and nursing care as administered by an all-Negro staff, with full assistance in every line of work common to hospitalization. Down at Tuskegee, in the atmosphere of one of America's most famous institutions, established and directed by the late Booker T. Washington, these Negro war veterans are being assisted in regaining strong bodies and normal health under the direction of, and through the knowledge and skill of race physicians, surgeons, and nurses.

In all, the modern Tuskegee Hospital, which has been provided by a Government which has always been as much interested in the welfare of one of its groups of citizens as it has been in any other, without regard to color or station in life, boasts of a staff of 422 persons, all of whom, from the surgeon-in-chief, Dr. Joseph H. Ward, of Indiana, to the most humble worker in the great institution of health rehabilitation, are competent Negroes, carefully drawn from civil life by the Government.

Fourteen graduate physicians and surgeons from America's finest medical schools; 37 trained nurses; 4 druggists and chemists; 23 clerks; 1 librarian, and 343 other workers, comprising orderlies, attendants, helpers, waiters, cooks, chauffeurs, and skilled and unskilled laborers, are busily and sympathetically engaged in providing aid and comfort to those Negro soldiers whom the Government has sent to Tuskegee Hospital, following their service in the lines of the U. S. Army.

While health processes are being carried on by the indoor staff, 85 Negro construction workers are on the outside, adding to the structure of one of the most modern hospitals in the land. For the services of this all-Negro personnel, the Government has provided an annual budget of approximately \$310,000.

Thus the promise of the late President Harding was carried on to fulfillment by his successor, President Coolidge, and thus, again, did the Republican Party do as it has always done, in putting its shoulder to the wheel of progress which carries onward the hopes and desires of the millions of American citizens.

VIRGIN ISLANDS SURVEYED

BY ALL-COLORED COMMISSION.

During 1923-1924, civil authorities and citizens of the Virgin Islands, which had been purchased by the United States from the Kingdom of Denmark for \$25,000,000, made special request of the Secretary of Labor, both directly, and through the late Phil H. Brown, Commissioner of Conciliation, for an investigation by the Federal Government of the industrial and economic conditions in the Virgin Islands.

Following approvals, first of the late President Harding, and, later, of President Coolidge, Secretary of Labor, James J. Davis, appointed a Federal Commission, composed of Hon. George H. Woodson, of Iowa; Hon. Cornelius R. Richardson, of Indiana; Hon. Charles E. Mitchell, of West Virginia; Hon. W. H. C. Brown, of Virginia; and Hon. Jefferson S. Coage, of Delaware.

This Commission left Washington on January 12, 1924, en route to the Virgin Islands, where an intensive study was made of the population of the Virgin Islands and their internal conditions of life. On February 29, 1924, the Virgin Islands commissioners, who comprised the first all-colored commission ever dispatched upon an official errand for the United States Government, made their report to the Secretary of Labor, and, through him, to the President of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

September 15, 1924.

Memorandum:

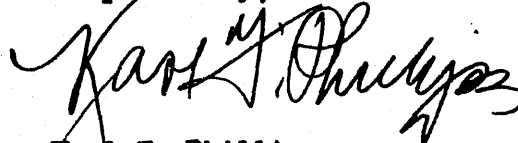
To: The Secretary

With the cooperation of the Negro Commissioner of Conciliation at Chicago, and one stenographer, to be appointed for three months at the Washington office, it is respectfully suggested that weekly labor releases of absorbing interest to readers of the Negro press could be systematically issued concerning facts relative to the Negro labor situation in important industrial centers.

In the East, your Commissioner could cover, each week, within an approximate period of two days, plus travel time, some strategic districts, such as Columbus, Ohio, Pittsburgh, Pa., Newark, N. J., West Virginia points, Maryland, Pennsylvania, etc. Your Commissioner at Chicago could cover Gary, Ind., Illinois, southern Indiana, eastern Kansas, Michigan, western Ohio, etc. The information so gathered could be filed at this office, compiled, and sent out "rush" to the Negro press on Saturday of each week.

Approval of this plan is suggested, together with the authority to meet Mr. Lewis at some intermediate point, say Pittsburgh, and perfect the plan immediately.

Respectfully,



Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

The **DAILY**
WASHINGTON AMERICAN

OLDEST COLORED DAILY IN THE UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, D. C., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1925

**SECRETARY OF LABOR URGES
FULL TRAINING**

Davis Draws Lesson from Negro Migration in Conference with Commissioner of Conciliation Phillips.

Hon. James J. Davis, Secretary of the United States Department of Labor, in discussing some of the effects of Negro migration with Karl F. Phillips, commissioner of conciliation in the Secretary's office, expressed the sincere hope that ample funds for education and training, without exception as to race or locality, may soon be available in every State in the Union, in order that contentment and adequate preparedness may fully pervade the citizenship of all Americans, thus encouraging everyone to contribute a full share to the advancement of America, the greatest and fairest Nation in the whole world.

The Secretary of Labor said:

"We do not live in this country as a white race or as a black race, but rather as full-fledged Americans, all under the same flag and Government. Hence all must be prepared to carry the burdens of our country that all may share fully in its joys and its progress.

"The Negro migration of the past eight years has taught us the lesson of the double cost of educational neglect. These migrants, to whom a large measure of training in the industrial and educational standards of America had not been previously available, though they rapidly adapted themselves to the new conditions of the industrial and community life to which they migrated, have themselves felt the effect of insufficient training; the sections to which they came have been severely taxed, not only in dollars and cents but in the extra strain upon their welfare forces and educational institutions; and the sections from which the migrants departed have felt the loss of man power, which could have been more helpful and contented had it been adequately prepared to meet high standards of industry and education.

"Such a policy would, I believe, result in a strong, sturdy, intelligent and contented citizenship—one which would be unswayed by propaganda or inducement, and which would remain loyal to its homeland and its people far beyond any desire to depart therefrom.

"Every person in our country has the absolute right to become a citizen of any section which he may choose; but, wherever he may be, it is much to be preferred that he shall have been thoroughly trained in the efficient standards of American industry and education. Then he may labor and advance upon the same fair terms that are open to all, and no section of the country will be forced to carry educational and other obligations of preparedness, which should have been fulfilled elsewhere."

Secretary Davis Urges Full Training For Negro

Says Migrants Have Felt Effect of Insufficient Training—Urges Fair Play For All, Regardless of Race.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 15.—Honorable James J. Davis, secretary of the United States Department of Labor, in discussing some of the effects of Negro migration with Karl F. Phillips, commissioner of conciliation in the secretary's office, expressed the sincere hope that ample funds for education and training, without exception as to race or locality, may soon be available in every state in the Union, in order that contentment and adequate preparedness may fully pervade the citizenship of all Americans, thus encouraging everyone to contribute a full share to the advancement of America, the greatest and fairest nation in the whole world.

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1925

AMERICA'S BEST WEAPONS

THE GOLIATH

Secretary Labor Davis Urges Full Training For All

Says We Do Not Live In This
Country as White Race or
Black Race

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Secretary of Labor Davis Urges Full Training

Continued from Page 3

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"Every person in our country has the absolute right to become a citizen of any section which he may choose;

NO. 5
PITTSBURGH, PA., FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1925



NEGRO MIGRATION.

Secretary of Labor Urges Full Training Everywhere.

Hon. James H. Doolittle, Secretary of the United States Department of Labor, is discussing some of the effects of Negro migration with Karl F. Phillips, Commissioner of Conciliation in the Secretary's office, expressing sincere hope that ample funds for education and training, without exception as to race or locality, may soon be available in every state in the union, in order that contentment and adequate preparedness may fully pervade the citizenship of all Americans, thus encouraging everyone to contribute a full share to the advancement of America, the greatest and fairest nation in the whole world.

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The Negro migration of the past 8 years has taught us the lesson of the double cost of educational neglect. These migrants, to whom a large measure of training in the industrial and educational standards of America had not been previously available, though they rapidly adapted themselves to the new conditions of the industrial and community life to which they migrated have themselves felt the effect of insufficient training; the sections to which they came have been severely taxed, not only in dollars and cents, but in the extra strain upon their welfare forces and educational institutions; and the sections from which the migrants departed have felt the loss of man-power, which could have been more helpful and contented had it been adequately prepared to meet high standards of industry and education.

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PUBLISHED WEEKLY

WASHINGTON, D. C. SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1925



SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1925

SECRETARY OF LABOR TO SEEK BETTER SCHOOLS

Poor Educational Facilities Is
Prime Cause for Labor
Leaving South

Washington, D. C., Jan. 16.—Honorable James J. Davis, secretary of the United States department of labor, in discussing some of the effects of migration, with Karl F. Phillips, commissioner of conciliation in the secretary's office, expressed the sincere hope that ample funds for education and training without exception as to race or locality, may soon be available in every state in the Union in order that contentment and adequate preparedness may fully pervade the citizenship of all Americans, thus encouraging every one to contribute a full share to the advancement of America, the greatest and fairest nation in the whole world. The secretary of labor said:

"We do not live in this country as a white race or as a black race, but, rather, as full-fledged Americans, all under the same flag and the same government. Hence all must be prepared to carry the burdens of our country, that all may share fully in its joys and its progress.

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The space in the
Chicago Defender
was arranged for
through the hearty
cooperation of the
Negro Commissioner of
Conciliation at
Chicago, Ill., Mr.
Morris Lewis.

REGISTRATION
NO. 147890

CHICAGO, ILL., SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1925.

THE
Chicago Defender
THE
WORLD'S
GREATEST
WEEKLY

THE
DODGE

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

2/101

*File
over*

8

January 17, 1925.

Memorandum:

To: The Secretary of Labor,
Assistant Secretary Henning,
Director of Conciliation Kerwin

Transmitting clippings from a few of the leading Negro newspapers, to sixty of which the release of the Secretary regarding Negro education was recently sent. The interest of the press in the statement is well evidenced by the display space given to the same.

Respectfully,

Karl F. Phillips

Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

*Noted by Sec
over*

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

April 28, 1925.



Memorandum:

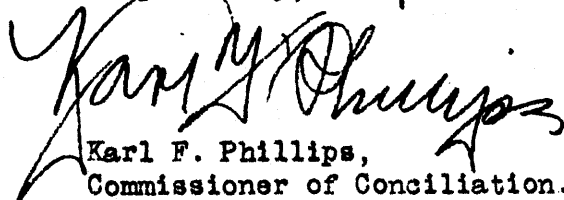
To: The Chief Clerk

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The Secretary of Labor is today personally meeting a delegation of public-spirited colored men, who will present statements in regard to an important labor matter, already under consideration by the Secretary. Among the number to be present there will be a Negro statistician, Charles E. Hall, of the Census Bureau, who has prepared valuable statistics upon the question being considered. It is expected that he will be able to give the Secretary of Labor helpful facts, throwing light upon the questions raised in discussion.

I am wondering if, as a matter of official courtesy, you could arrange with the Census Bureau to have Mr. Hall excused for this service, without loss of annual leave. He will contribute valuable information to the public service, and his personal interests would be conserved were it possible for him to be present without loss of time.

Respectfully,


Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

J. P.

x

May 16, 1925.

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to reply to your communication of May the ninth, directing me to consider and report to you the possibility of carrying out the suggestions contained in letter of Miss Hallie Q. Brown under date of the sixth instant

Fifteenth Amendment.-- The history of Congressional debates shows clearly that a better enforcement than that which now obtains with regard to citizens in certain states where varied instrumentalities, created by state legislatures, are in legal effect as preventatives of full suffrage rights as contemplated by the U. S. Constitution, is a matter which can only be adjusted by Congress. An awakening public sentiment, quickened by the people of the United States and by them transmitted to Congress, with the request for appropriate action, is apparently the only stimulant which may eventually do away with restricted voting rights, where prevalent.

Women's Headquarters -- Publicity.-- It seems to me that the matter of establishing headquarters for colored women is a matter for consideration only by the Republican National Committee, in advisement with the regular Negro organization which assisted in carrying forward the last campaign. Personally, I do not believe that the rank and file of Negro women in America desire a separate headquarters based upon their color or sex. It does not seem to me that this idea is germane to the Constitutional idea of suffrage. Hence, I think that merely a strong coalition of forces, white and colored, male and female, with some very definite scope of work, would best conserve the interests of the Republican Party and its entire constituency, regardless of race.

Publicity and the dissemination of instructive literature concerning principles of the Republican Party are already receiving wide circulation through the Columbian Press releases, edited by the Negro member of my own staff, copies of which, together with newspaper clippings are hereto attached.

Parallel Key Positions.-- I believe that in cases where department heads have been confronted with special problems growing

R.P.
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out of interracial relationships, a solution could be expedited by the employment of Negro experts of broad vision, understanding, and training. Apparently this policy is bringing forth good results in the Department of Agriculture, Division of Economics, where Negro farm and home economics demonstrators are successfully carrying forward the Department's program into territories heretofore difficult of approach. I do not believe it would be possible to create key positions for colored women parallel to those held by white women, for reasons of technical training and the apparent attempt to separate the interests of American citizens. I do believe, however, that full recognition should be given to the interests of the Negro citizen, and that it might be possible, should the respective heads be agreeable, to appoint and assign, for special tasks in the Department of Public Health and the Department of Education, Negro women who are competent to perform helpful field work in behalf of Negro health and Negro education.

I have obtained very satisfactory results along interracial labor lines by having in my own office a Negro commissioner of conciliation, thoroughly familiar with interracial reactions and industrial problems growing out of misunderstandings. His reports have been informatively valuable, aiding me in the administration of the duties of this Department in its work of fostering and promoting the welfare of wage-earners. If it were possible, where advantageous, for other department heads to rely, in some instances, upon the information which could be gathered by Negroes familiar with the uniform interracial problems of the day, I believe that the public welfare would be benefitted by their connection with the Public Service.

Civil-Service: In the above cases, of course, I believe the technical requirements for all applicants should be uniformly observed, and that all should qualify under the same civil-service requirements.

Labor Department -- Woman's and Children's Bureaus.-- Although there is no such thing as segregating the economics of Negro wage-earners from those of any other race, because it is fundamentally un-American to create classes or to recognize classes, it is recognized that there is a race distinction and that, sometimes, it is very convenient to have the assistance of a representative of a race in dealing with the members of that race. So far as labor matters are concerned the race distinction becomes more pronounced in the field of collective bargaining when troubles between employers and employees threaten. For those reasons, I believe it would be helpful, provided the highly-technical requirements of the U. S. Civil Service Commission could be met, to have a colored woman assigned from time to time for special investigations under the Women's and Children's bureaus, in cooperation with this office. Mere political expediency would not, I am sincerely sure, form a

just basis for assignment to such work, which, in every case, is highly technical and difficult. However, from the experience of my own office, I believe helpful results would accrue, and I should be glad, should the occasion arise, to give personal attention to the consideration of the application of any colored woman who has qualified under all the regulations of either the Women's Bureau or the Children's Bureau, as prescribed by the U. S. Civil Service Commission.

Bureau of Education.-- I am unable to advise you as to the possibility of the appointment of a colored woman in the Bureau of Education other than by reference to the previous paragraph in which I commented upon "Parallel Key Positions."

Compensation Commission.-- I am thoroughly sympathetic toward the appointment of a colored woman in the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Employees' Compensation Commission, but am, of course, unable to advise you as to the possibility of such an appointment.

Department of Agriculture.-- While unable to advise you as to the possibility of appointing colored women to positions in the experiment stations of the Department of Agriculture, I am thoroughly convinced that farm labor questions would be helped by greater attention to Negro farm life in America. The Negro farmer has contributed much to American production, and, because largely of insufficient training in scientific farm methods, the fullness of his honest efforts has not been what it could be made to be under intensive instruction and advice in the science of agriculture. The stimulation of home loyalty and farm production can, I believe, be quickened by special efforts to increase the pride and work performance of Negroes in agricultural life. If I may ethically make the statement, I should say that it would be helpfully possible to encourage the Negro people to take greater note of the advantages of rural life by increasing the personnel of governmental workers who are supervising and teaching domestic arts, science, and other home economics. The industrial centers of the country are largely filled, and along with the white farmer the Negro farmer must be given commensurate aid, advice, and encouragement. The augmenting of this work by the Department of Agriculture by colored appointees would, I sincerely believe, be thoroughly helpful.

In conclusion, I may say that a few weeks ago I had the pleasure of receiving a delegation of Negro citizens who were intensely interested in protecting their labor group from the unfair competition caused by the unlawful entry of certain aliens, who at once absorb the jobs rightfully belonging to American citizens. Following the statements of the members of this committee, I have taken under

The President

Page four

immediate consideration some plans which may permit special work in the Immigration Service, to the end that American labor, both white and black, may receive the fullest protection which this Department is able to give.

Mr. President, I have the honor to remain

Faithfully yours,

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 9, 1925.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Enclosed is copy of a communication presented to me by the signers. I should like your Department to consider and report to me the possibility of carrying out the suggestions which are made therein.

Very truly yours,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to be "Woodrow Wilson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Hon. James J. Davis,
Secretary of Labor.

Encl.

COPY

from

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Record Group No. 174

Additional Information
General Records of the Department of Labor

Entry 1 NC-58

General Files. 1907-42

"Chief Clerk's Files"

8/102 F

The original letter has been transferred
to Finding Aids Box #4 for RB-174
for reasons of security.

g. m. H.

9-28-84

Washington, D. C.,
May 6, 1925.

Mr. President:

The colored women of the United States, appreciating the right of suffrage are intelligently embracing all opportunities to exercise that right when and where given.

We are deeply appreciative that in the recent presidential campaign, for the first time, we had an executive and administrative part of the work of the Republican National Committee in its National Headquarters, and in the several State Headquarters.

We placed in the records of the Republican National Committee our report of the colored women's activities during the campaign, a record of systematic organization by states, through the National Committeewomen and the state central committees; and we commend to your attention this record as evidence of our worth as citizens and our loyalty to the Republican Party.

Mr. President, on behalf of this loyal portion of your constituency, we respectfully submit the following recommendations for your consideration:

1. We urge the enforcement of the 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, by whatever legislative act will give to all the citizens of these United States, irrespective of race, sex, or section, the free and full right of suffrage.
2. We urge the establishment of Headquarters for colored women, either in Washington or in Chicago, with colored women in charge, to continue our organization, to distribute literature, foster propaganda, offset adverse propaganda, and promote instruction in citizenship duties and the principles of the Republican party.
3. We recommend to parallel the key positions held by white women under the Federal Government with positions for colored women.
4. We urge the appointment of a colored woman or women in the Labor Dept.
5. We urge the appointment of a colored woman or women in the Child Welfare Bureau.
6. We urge the appointment of a colored woman or women in the Bureau of Education.
7. We urge the appointment of a colored woman or women in the Woman's Bureau of the U. S. Employees Compensation Commission.
8. We recommend the appointment of colored men and women who have specialized in the best universities and who can qualify for positions in the experiment stations of the Department of Agriculture.

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Mr. President, we most respectfully extend to you our sincere commendation of your administration and your policies, and pledge you the unswerving fidelity of the Republican colored women of America.

Hallie Q. Brown
Director of Colored Women
Republican National Committee.

M. C. Lawton
Chairman of Eastern Division
Republican National Committee

Myrtle Foster Cook
Chairman of Western Division
Republican National Committee

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

July 24, 1925.

Memorandum:

To: The Director of Conciliation
From: Karl F. Phillips

In Consular Report No. 177224, of Albert Halstead, American Consul General, Montreal, Canada, it is stated, in the May and June, 1925, summary that:

"Senator Beaubien of Quebec recently during a speech in the Senate in regard to the loss of Canadians by migration to the United States, and after stating that the loss of last year was estimated at about 181,000, suggested that as equally as great a number had been due to those smuggled across the boundary and declared that there it was understood that in ten (10) years Canada had lost 2,000,000 people to the United States."

From Guadalajara, Mexico, under date of July 10, 1925, through consular circles comes the following information:

"Large numbers of farm laborers continue to leave this district for the United States, and the class going are those which Mexico needs the most. However, they report that conditions are such that they must find employment elsewhere."

Respectfully,

Karl F. Phillips
Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

8/102

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November 28, 1925.

Memorandum :

Information of the Secretary -- Through Mr. Kerwin

(Excerpt from consular report, London, England, -- Received November 20, 1925.)

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"It is stated that an effort is now to be made to establish an all-inclusive world-wide trade union international, and the workers of the world were asked to join their efforts with the British and Russian Trade Union movements, in order to secure the removal of all obstacles and difficulties in the way of national and international working class unity."

Respectfully,

Karl F. Phillips

Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

file

GEORGE P. McLEAN, CONN., CHAIRMAN
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W. H. SAULT, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
BANKING AND CURRENCY

April 24, 1926.

Honorable Hugh L. Kerwin,
Director of Conciliation,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Kerwin:

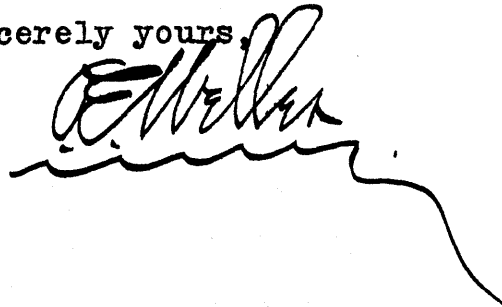
There is enclosed herewith for your attention a letter which I have received from Miss Vivian Johnson Cook, #406 Presstman Street, Baltimore, Maryland, relative to her desire to obtain certain material, which I am informed that you may be able to give her.

If you are in a position to furnish me with the information desired by Miss Cook in order that I may transmit it to her, I shall deeply appreciate it.

Will you please be good enough to return Miss Cook's letter to me when it has served your purpose?

Thanking you in advance for your courtesy in this connection, with with best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



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May 27, 1926.

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Hon. William M. Whittington, M. C.,
House Office Building,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman:

In response to your request, made by telephone yesterday, there is being sent to you, under separate cover, a selected bibliography of "The Negro in Industry," together with a migration report and other circulars concerning the general subject of Negro labor. For a classification of occupations in which Negro labor is generally employed, you are referred to Volume IV of the Fourteenth Census of the United States, and to "Negro Population in the United States, 1790--1915," published by the U. S. Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

Very truly yours,

K.P.
ROBE CARL WHITE,
Assistant Secretary.
R.C.W.

April 28, 1926.

Hon. Ovington E. Weller,
United States Senator,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator Weller:

I am pleased to acknowledge your letter of April 24th, with enclosed inquiry of Miss Vivian Johnson Cook, of Baltimore, Md., relative to her desire to obtain material bearing upon vocational guidance and the general subject of Negro labor.

Some time ago this office made a study of occupations engaging Negro workers in the City of New York, with the idea of using the same as a quasi guide for vocational and trade school courses. The study, which is quite lengthy, has not been published because of the lack of adequate funds; but if it will be of material assistance to your constituent, the Department will be pleased to loan it to you, for a limited period, for her use. It is not improbable that the facts and data brought to light by this study could be similarly applied to Baltimore and other typical cities. If you will indicate your pleasure, I shall be glad to forward you the typewritten manuscript of the vocational study.

As to occupations generally engaging Negro labor, I know of no better authority than Volume IV of the Fourteenth Census, a copy of which you can obtain from the U. S. Bureau of the Census.

Under separate cover, I am sending you several additional pamphlets and releases which relate to the general subject of Negro labor.

Miss Cook's letter is returned.

Sincerely yours,

H. L. KERRWIN,
Director of Conciliation.

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K.P.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

A/102

July 30, 1926.

Memorandum :

To: The Secretary
From: Karl F. Phillips, Commissioner of Conciliation

(Excerpt from report "Economic Conditions in Mexico during June, 1926," of Consul Alexander Weddell, Mexico, Mexico, dated June 4 - July 2, 1926.)

"EXCELSIOR of June 11, in a news item declares that some 250,000 Mexicans in the southern portion of the United States are in a desperate economic condition. The same newspaper, under date of June 21, in a lengthy editorial entitled "Why Mexicans Emigrate," quotes the (U. S.) Secretary of Labor as saying that the exodus of Mexican laborers to the United States would be explainable if in the country there was lack of remunerative occupation, which this functionary declares is not the case. The editorial writer flatly contradicts this and asks if this is true, 'how is it, in fact, that Mexican workers from the field and city, so protected and coddled by revolutionary governments, fly from our country, scorning the great benefits which these governments assert they have given them?'"

(Report No. 216568 -- "Not to be published as official information.")"

Respectfully submitted,

Karl F. Phillips
Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

file

Mr. H. K.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

4447 Indiana Avenue,
Chicago, April 9 1927.

Hon. Karl D. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:-

With reference to relief plans in the matter of the unemployment situation, I have the following comment:

Wherever the U. S. government is in the position to O. K. and thereby release any big building plans, the release should be made effective as soon as possible, especially any where a large amount of common labor is to be used. It is the unskilled and common labor type that suffers most.

Also, where, through proper government agencies, municipalities can be encouraged to go ahead with a construction program, that that be done. Big construction projects with a resultant call for labor would relieve the unemployment conditions that now exist.

In Chicago we have just elected a republican to office as Mayor (William Hale Thompson). Along with the election of this official, bond issues were authorized amounting to around \$10,000,000.00. This covers the widening of streets, the building of bridges, cutting through new streets and the straightening of a portion of the Chicago River. Some building projects that have been held-up during the winter will now go ahead with speed, which will afford some more relief. The municipal construction work, though political and a little slow-going, will, when started give a great deal of occupation for common labor. It is hoped, however, here in Chicago that there will be no Southern influx as conditions are bad enough now and no encouragement should be extended to southern colored men and women to come to Chicago because of the election of Mr. Thompson. This idea of train-loads coming here was played up by the democrats but was of course designed to react against Thompson the G.O.P. candidate.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

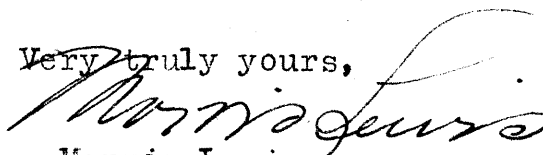
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We have had a good deal to say about the great number of Negroes who have come North but seem to have lost sight of the fact that the southern white man has come also. However, as they enter the industrial life of Chicago and become foremen and superintendents in big plants, they do not exhibit any prejudice against the colored workers in the common pursuits. Relying on their boasted knowledge of the Negro and "how to handle him" they use him to a fair degree. However, the skilled jobs as a rule are denied the Negro wherever the white southerner controls.

With reference to this labor situation, I talked with a student of the Chicago University who was making a survey for the University. He asked if I did not think it would be a fine thing for colored men and women to direct their efforts toward equipping themselves for employment under civil service in city, county and national departments. To my mind there is a great thought there. The average white man has far greater opportunity for real advancement in our business life outside the field of politics and governmental affairs. There are a large number of white people holding political office (under civil service and by 60 day appointments) who are really indifferent to the job and only hold them until a place is developed outside of this range. It is to be remembered that very many men pass out of political jobs in private connections that make more money for them and give greater chance for advancement. Accordingly, granted we have a strict and impartial application of civil service, the experienced and competent Negro would have a chance to advance in governmental service in a way he cannot in the business life of our nation. The foregoing, of course, applies to the so-called "white collar" jobs.

In Chicago every effort will be made to have Mayor Thompson "make dirt fly" as soon as possible and the colored workers will get some employment.

Very truly yours,



Morris Lewis,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

January 25, 1928

REPORT:

TO: The Secretary - Through the Director of Conciliation
FROM: Georgia Douglas Johnson
SUBJECT: The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters V. The Pullman Co.

Oral argument in the above mentioned case was heard before the Interstate Commerce Commission at the office of the Commission, Saturday, January 21, at 10:30 A.M.

PULLMAN COMPANY - First Attorney -

The argument was opened by Mr. Kelly for the Pullman Company. He questioned the authority of the Commission to arbitrate in this matter, pointing out that it should come before other tribunals for adjustment. He suggested further that the matter of prayer for a relief from the tipping system, urged by the porters, was a subterfuge for higher pay. He offered as a way out, that the porters themselves refuse the tips thereby doing away with all arbitration.

A Commissioner asked if it were not true that the Pullman Company recognized and counted upon the tips of porters in fixing the wage scale. Mr. Kelly thought that it might have some little bearing but very slight. He also denied that all of the porters were Negroes.

The question of the rights of state to legislate in the matter of 'tipping' was discussed. A Commissioner pointed out instances where the law to prevent tipping had been passed and enforced. Mr. Kelly was skeptical on the efficacy of these measures. In fact he observed that tipping was an old custom, long established and one not to be lightly swept aside. He observed that the Pullman Company neither compelled the traveling public to give tips nor the porters to receive them.

He was asked by a commissioner if the Company did not, indirectly at least benefit through the tipping system. This was denied by Mr. Kelly.

PULLMAN PORTER'S ATTORNEY -

The Pullman porter's attorney stated first that the Company does receive compensation indirectly through the tipping system. Seven million dollars was the approximate figure of tipping receipts, and also counts upon these receipts in fixing the wage scale for porters. In fact the wage scale is much higher on runs where the tips are small as on the long runs West for tourists who pay but little. He added that while it was true that open solicitation of tips was not in vogue, there was a very well understood system of silent solicitation made use of - the last whisting service etc. He instanced the fact that Negroes as a whole received less pay for services rendered and payed more for ser-

vices received than any other group, adding that the tipping system tended to promote the feeling of inferiority in the group thus penalized.

PULLMAN COMPANY - Second Attorney -

The second attorney for the Pullman Company also questioned the right of the Commission to interfere in this matter under discussion. Stating that it was a question entirely within the province of Congress to rule in this matter of tipping. Upon being asked by a Commissioner if the tip did not in some way interfere with the equal distribution of service received by the travelling public, giving unequal advantages in proportion to tips received, he said "NO". In fact he instanced that services were identical whether tips were received or expected, except in rare instances. Also affirmed that tips were only given at the end of a trip thereby making this unequal service of gratitude impossible.

RESULT

The Commission took down a hastily worded prayer offered by the attorney for the Pullman Porters, which in effect asked for their interference in relieving them from the tipping system.

Georgia Douglas Johnson.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

4447 Indiana Avenue,
Chicago, May 19 1928.

Hon. Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

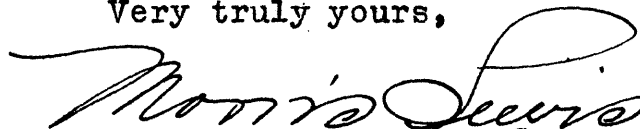
Dear Mr. Phillips:-

While there are many signs of unemployment among the colored people of Chicago, there is nevertheless evidence of continued employment in certain industrial lines where the representation is most gratifying.

The Free Employment agency in this immediate community is placing a substantial number each week but this covers the situation only in a small way.

There was keen disappointment locally at the failure of the city bond issues to go over at the last election. This would have been the signal for a number of public improvements and such contracts always give opportunity for Negro labor. At this writing it has not developed that these particular issues will be again on the ballot this June or November.

Very truly yours,



Commissioner of Conciliation.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

4447 Indiana Ave.,
Chicago,
June 7 1928.

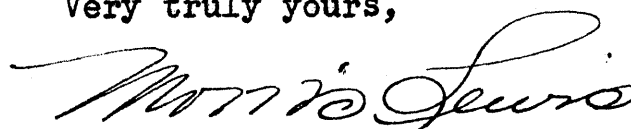
Hon. Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Phillips:-

From reports that I have seen and personal observation, there are a large number of men and women out of work. However, placements are being made of a temporary nature. It is also felt that after the conventions shall have selected their candidates and capital starts in on a constructive program, there will be some relief. A bond issue of \$15,000,000 was recently approved by the people for construction work on one of our big park systems. Work will be advanced in this connection very soon and there will be employment for a large number of laborers, thus relieving the situation with which we are confronted.

Am leaving to-morrow for Springfield, St. Louis and Kansas City, will also visit Salina and Topeka, Kansas, at which points I will make some inquiries.

Very truly yours,



Commissioner of Conciliation

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECOND ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

June 23, 1928.

In a brief survey which was made of certain Federal employees, as of June 30, 1923, your office courteously furnished this Department with valuable information concerning Negro employees in the service of the U. S. Government.

At this time, the Secretary of Labor desires to obtain similar information as of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928. Accordingly, this inquiry is addressed to you and to each executive department and independent bureau of the Government, with the request that you supply, as to your department or bureau, the following information for the use of the Office of the Secretary of Labor:

Total number of Negro employees, June 30, 1928,	_____
Departmental Service, Washington, D. C.	_____
Field Service,	_____
Total salaries, per annum, paid the above, as of June 30, 1928,	\$ _____
Departmental Service, Washington, D. C.	\$ _____
Field Service,	\$ _____

Submitted by _____

Title _____

Department, Bureau, or Office _____

It is desired that the above information relate to all the Negro employees in your department or bureau and the subsidiary branches thereof, both in Washington, D. C., and in the field.

Respectfully,

W. W. Husband

W. W. HUSBAND,
Second Assistant Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

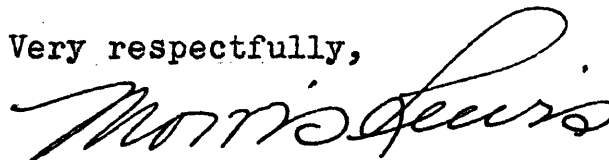
4447 Indiana Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois,
July 26 1928.

Hon. Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Phillips:-

Lack of employment in and around Chicago is creating a very serious situation. Many large public projects are held up though the building industry is experiencing a marked activity. Renting agents are loud in their complaint of vacant flats and houses, which condition they naturally attribute to the lack of employment and which hits at the purse. The Free Employment Agency on 35th Street is crowded daily and some placements regularly made through that agency relieves the situation to some extent. This unemployment is, of course, no more in evidence here than in other large centers and we are suffering in common with all.

Very respectfully,



Commissioner of Conciliation.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

4447 Indiana Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois,
August 22 1928.

Hon. Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Phillips:-

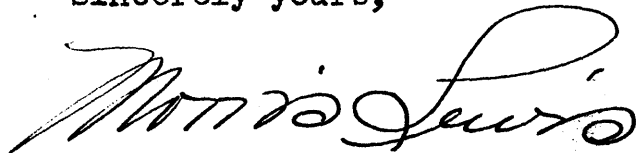
From inquiries I have recently made, and observation, it appears that the "lack of employment" situation is not as bad at present as it was a few weeks ago. This is, of course, quite a relief and it is to be hoped that the trend will continue in this direction.

I am planning to send out a questionnaire to some large employers of Negro labor, seeking a new set of statistics on Negro employment.

Following the serious case in Evanston, Illinois, where one Shanks, colored, murdered a Miss Constance, white, a student at Northwestern University, a tense feeling developed and it is reported that there is a movement on foot to dispense with the services of Negroes in certain fields. This, of course, is not in industrial lines but in personal service and kindred employment. However, I believe the acute feeling is dying down since Shanks is safely behind the bars.

With regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,



Commissioner of Conciliation

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON



August 29, 1928.

Joint Memorandum:

To: The Commissioner of Labor Statistics
The Director-General, U. S. Employment Service

Please find attached, for your information and notice, a few brief recent reports on Unemployment among the Negro workers of the Chicago, Ill., district.

From a depression in May, you will note that the staff representative in Chicago reports "relief" with a trend toward increasing employment.

Respectfully,

H. L. Kerwin

H. L. Kerwin,
Director of Conciliation.

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Mr. Stewart
Mr. Kerwin
Mr. Hoover
make necessary notes

Comm of Labor Alot
after this has
sewed your purpose
Kindly return to
Conciliation *Key*

File



BROTHERHOOD OF

Sleeping Car Porters

Headquarters:

239 WEST 136th STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Telephone: EDGecombe {2323
2324

President and General Organizer
A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

General Secretary-Treasurer
ROY LANCASTER

Assistant General Organizer

A. L. TOTEN

Field Representative

S. E. GRAIN

Regional Supervisor

BENNIE SMITH

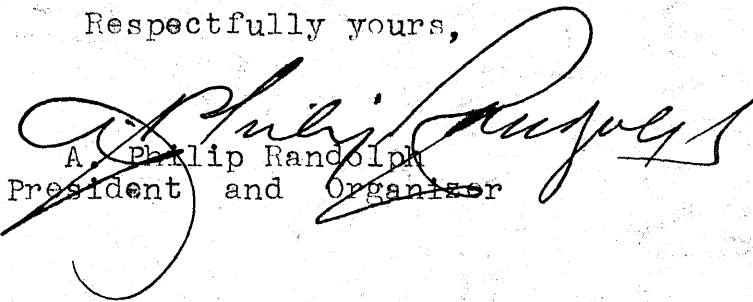
January 23rd, 1929.

Mr H. L. Kerwin,
Director of Conciliation,
U.S. Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Thanks for your letter of the 18th inst. in-
forming me of the fact that the Commissioner of Labor
Statistics would reply to my letter relative to the
Department making a study of wages, hours and working
conditions of the Pullman porter and the Pullman in-
dustry in general in relation to life and health of
the porter and public.

Respectfully yours,


A. Philip Randolph
President and Organizer

APR/DL

OUR GOAL:

More wages; better hours; better working conditions; pay for overtime; pay for "preparation" time; abolition of "doubling out," conductor's pay for conductor's work when in charge and manhood rights.

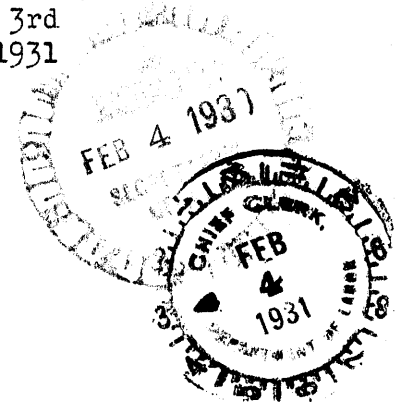
GEORGE W. WICKERSHAM, CHAIRMAN
HENRY W. ANDERSON
NEWTON D. BAKER
ADA L. COMSTOCK
WILLIAM I. GRUBB
WILLIAM S. KENYON
MONTE M. LEMANN
FRANK J. LOESCH
KENNETH MACKINTOSH
PAUL J. MCCORMICK
ROSCOE POUND
MAX LOWENTHAL, SECRETARY

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LAW OBSERVANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

TOWER BUILDING, FOURTEENTH AND K STREETS N.W.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

February
3rd
1931



Mr. William N. Doak
Secretary of Labor
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

In revising a special report on Occupations and Crime Among Negroes for the Commission, we are endeavoring to secure definite information on the extent of Negro employment in Federal, State, and Municipal offices.

In this connection, we should like to secure from the Department of Labor, data relative to the number of Negroes on the annual Federal payroll together with the aggregate salary for the years 1910-1930. It is my understanding that a report of the Department gives figures of this nature for the year 1928. If it is possible to furnish more extensive information, it will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Ira De A. Reid
Director, Department of Research
National Urban League

IDR:RB

REPLY TO:
Ira De A. Reid
National Urban League
1133 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

February 5, 1931.

Memorandum:

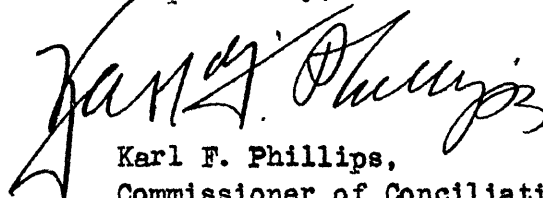
To: The Chief Clerk

Referring to accompanying request of Mr. Ira De A. Reid, of the National Urban League, addressed to the Secretary of Labor under date of February 3d, in which the League requests "from the Department of Labor data relative to the number of Negroes on the annual Federal payroll, together with the aggregate salary for the years 1910-1930":

In the year 1923, and again in the year 1928, the Department of Labor issued an informative statement, such as that which is attached hereto, showing the total number of Negro employees in the service of the United States Government, together with their aggregate salaries for each of the respective fiscal years. Obviously, the compilation entailed considerable work, not only on the part of this Department, but, as well, on the part of the many other departments, bureaus and divisions of the Federal Service, each of which, in turn, issued schedules to their employees and computed totals which were finally summarized by the Department of Labor

From correspondence and other comments concerning the compilation it appears that practically all the Departments are willing to cooperate with this Department in this matter every four or five years; and I presume the Conciliation Service may again, in 1932, make a new compilation of Negro employees in the Federal Service. Just at the moment it would be a tremendous task to attempt to make such a summary as Mr. Reid desires; nor is it probable that much variation would be found as of the present date in comparison with the 1928 figures. To call upon all the Federal services at this time for the desired, and then to ask them again in 1932 to submit these estimates, I believe to be, at least, a slight imposition, inasmuch as the 1928 figures would seem to serve all practicable purposes.

Respectfully,



Karl F. Phillips,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

February 5, 1931

Mr. Ira DeA. Heid,
National Urban League,
1133 Broadway,
New York, New York.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of yours of the 3d instant with reference to a survey to be made as to the extent of Negro employment in Federal, State and Municipal offices, requesting the Department to cause a survey to be made to secure the number of Negroes on the annual Federal payroll for the years 1910 to 1930, together with the aggregate salary for that period.

I am constrained to say that this is a task which is beyond the ability of the Department to perform at the present time. No separate records are kept showing the race of any of the Government employees. This can only be determined by examination of the file of every employee in the Federal Service in order to secure information as to present employees. To secure the information you request back to 1910 is an almost impossible task.

I have referred this matter to one of our Commissioners of Conciliation who specializes in information relating to the colored race, and copy of his memorandum, together with copy of the survey made in 1928, is attached hereto.

I am sorry to have to say that under the circumstances this is all the Department of Labor can do in the matter.

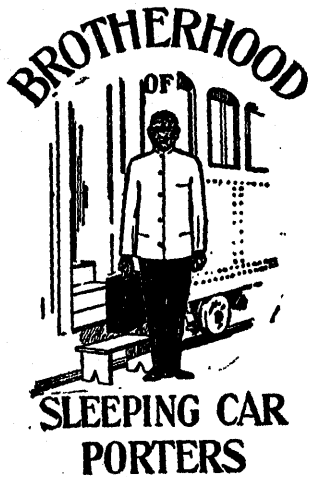
Respectfully yours,

Exact copy as signed by Robt Carl White

Willed ROBE-CARL WHITE by
The Assistant Secretary

G R

Inclosures



The Pullman Porters Injunction Fund

To Disestablish Company Union and Yellow Dog Contract

Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor
239 WEST 136 STREET, NEW YORK CITY



COMMITTEE
The Rev. WM. LLOYD IMES
Minister St. James' Presbyterian
Church—New York
Dr. JEROME DAVIS
Divinity School—Yale Univ.

May 12th, 1931 .

Hon. William N. Doak,
Secretary of Labor,
U.S. Department of Labor,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Doak:

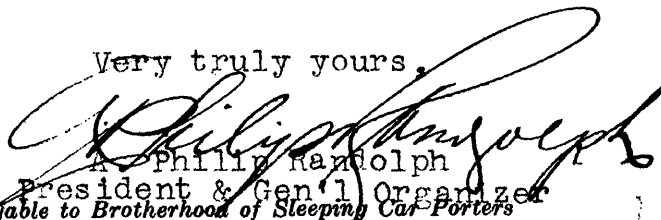
About two years ago the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters sought to get the United States Department of Labor to make a study of wages, hours of work and working conditions among Pullman porters of the Pullman Company.

Last summer we were told by Mr. Ethelbert Stewart, Secretary of the Department of Labor Statistics that an attempt would be made to undertake a study as soon as possible. I think he suggested that unemployment conditions imposed new burdens upon the department which prevented him from going into any new work at that time. No doubt the department is less burdened now than at that time and may be able to render this service.

I know that many studies have been made of groups of workers by your department from time to time and have served as a very useful method of accurately informing public opinion of the status of various groups of workers. I should appreciate knowing if there is any additional reason for failure to make the study. I think it will be a very worth while and constructive contribution to the literature of economic surveys of wage-earners in the country.

Trusting that this matter will meet and merit your approval and that I may hear from you as to the possibility of some immediate action being taken on this matter, I am

Very truly yours,


Philip Randolph
President & Gen'l Organizer

APR:L

Make all checks payable to Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters



43174
47
SUBJECT

Name of
Paper

Hawk
Eye

City

Burlington

State

Iowa

Date

5/12/31

Circulation

911400

PAY-CUTTING

If the following quotation sounds like dangerous radicalism, remember that it comes from a manufacturer and is approved by some rather conservative business critics:

"Before reducing the wages of our working men, why not begin higher up and reduce the wages of the president, vice-presidents and other high-salaried officials? Also do away with the bonuses, superfluous vice-presidents and fancy officials who are deriving substantial revenues without giving actual services.

"In a great many instances the salaries of officials are altogether too high. Fifty thousand a year should be the maximum for any man who esays to work for a living. If he wants further revenue, he should get it from stock in the concern."

If industrial pay has to be cut, it seems only fair and reasonable to cut it all the way up and down the line, and this can be done most easily by starting at the top. That sounds fair enough, one trouble is today, however, is that "stock in the concern" does not necessarily mean "further revenue." In a considerable number of firms, in fact, the wage earner and the salaried employe has an advantage over those who depend chiefly upon their stock holdings for earnings.

Another big concern, feeling the need to reduce expenses by cutting salaries and wages, fixed a sliding scale of cuts that seems to be fairer than any other scheme yet devised. The order was that all salaries and wages averaging more than \$50 per week be cut 10 per cent, all between \$15 and \$50 be cut 5 per cent, no cuts in wages under \$15 per week.

If industrial pay has to be cut, it seems only fair and reasonable to cut all the way up and down the line. But the hope of all is there need be no general pay cutting.

114
SUBJECT

Name of
Paper

City

State

Date

5-12-31 Circulation

193300

Yellow Dogs Depart

Yellow dog contracts are on their way to join the debtors' prison and the inquisition in a better-forgotten past.

Following the debate over Judge Parker, when thousands of folk learned about these contracts for the first time, a wave of sentiment against them has swept the country.

At that time Wisconsin was the only state barring the yellow dog contract. During the past winter and spring four others have joined her. Oregon, Arizona and Colorado acted first, and Gov. George White has just affixed his signature to such a law in Ohio.

The case against the "yellow dog" contract has probably never been better stated than in the Wisconsin legislation which forbids it.

Laying down the broad principle that terms and conditions of labor should result from voluntary agreement between employer and employes, the statute says: "Government authority has permitted and encouraged employers to organize. In dealing with such employers the individual unorganized worker is helpless to exercise actual liberty of contract and to protect his freedom of labor, and thereby to obtain acceptable terms and conditions of employment. Therefore it is necessary that the individual workman shall have full freedom of association, self-organization and designation of representatives of his own choosing, to negotiate terms and conditions of employment, and that he shall be free from the interference, restraint or coercion of employers of labor . . . "Yellow dog" contracts are hereby declared to be contrary to public policy and shall not afford any basis for the granting of legal or equitable relief . . ."

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May 15, 1931

✓
Mr. Edward B. Meyercord,
8 Seymour Hall,
Galesburg, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

In partial compliance with your request of
May 12, there is inclosed herewith such material as the
Department has available for distribution on the subjects
of migration of Negroes from the cotton States and on
immigration.

Your letter has been referred to the Depart-
ment of Commerce for further attention.

Respectfully yours,

~~Exact copy as signed by Robt Carl White~~

Washed 5/16/31 by ~~_____~~

ROBE CARL WHITE
Acting Secretary
RCE

Inclosures

G H

8/102-2

May 15, 1931.

Mr. A. Philip Randolph,
President and General Organizer,
Brotherhood of Sleeping-Car Porters,
239 West 136th Street,
New York, N. Y.

✓
My dear Mr. Randolph:

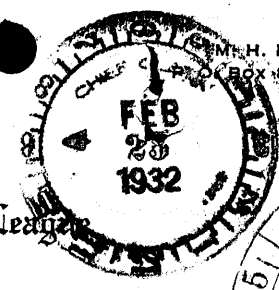
I have your letter of May 12th with further reference to your request that the Department of Labor make a study of wages, hours of work and working conditions among the Pullman Sleeping-Car porters.

As you say, this matter has been the subject of previous correspondence with Mr. Ethelbert Stewart, Commissioner of Labor Statistics of this Department, who is at present absent in Europe. Although employment and other official matters of very pressing importance will doubtless engage the intensive efforts of the Department for some time to come, I shall be glad to take up your matter again with Commissioner Stewart upon his return from abroad.

Very truly yours,

J. R. COLLINS, PRESIDENT
903 SIXTH STREET, REDLANDS, CALIF.

8/102



M. H. LUKE, SECRETARY
BOX 802, LA JOLLA, CALIF.

Southern Counties

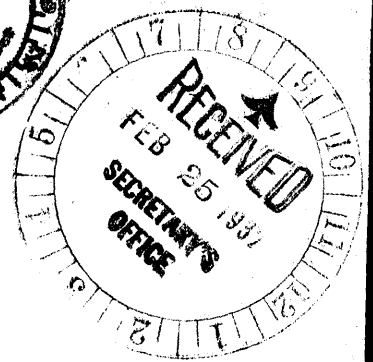
Economic, Political and Commercial League

OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Handwritten initials: RL

OFFICE OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
903 SIXTH STREET, REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA

Redlands, California,
Feb'y 8th, 1932.



Handwritten: Hon. Herbert Hoover
President of U.S. of America

Handwritten: Labor
Stamp: REPRESENTATIVELY REPRESENTED
FOR CONSIDERATION.

In view of the alarming decrease in opportunities afforded Negroes in governmental activities, both as relates to a voice in determining the future policy of his government and himself; and in sharing in the benefits of government owned, controlled, operated or supervised industrial activities. We find it painfully, yet absolutely necessary that we take some definite stand to try to improve the situation as it relates to us and affects our general welfare NOW. You will note by the enclosed resolutions, just adopted by this organization, what steps have been decided upon as pertains to the present conditions and practices.

In as much as we feel that every public servant entrusted with the power to create or enforce, or to help to create or enforce, just and humane laws for the benefit of all, likewise have power, through their interdependence upon each other in like capacities, to mould sentiment and use their influence in favor of a fair, just and humane operation of all governmental activities, to the end that all men shall stand alike before their government in every way. We are therefore addressing this letter to you to ask of you, if it is in keeping with your convictions, to please state your position on the matters referred to in the resolutions.

- 1st, What is your personal view?
- 2nd, Are you willing to be quoted, either in person or through the Press, as to what your policy would be in the event of your election?
- 3rd, Do you believe, that a frank and open statement of your policy as regards the equality of opportunity for all men alike in all governmental activities, would in any wise, create a prejudice for or against you during this or any other campaign?
- 4th, Would you care to give to us your honest and sincere convictions and permit us to use your reply during the approaching campaign?

Your reply will be highly appreciated and may mean much for or against your candidacy.

With kindest regards, we are sincerely yours,
By the committee.

Campaign and Publicity Committee

Handwritten signatures: J. R. Collins, J. E. Muckelroy, Rev. J. M. Riddle

Southern Counties
Economic, Political and Commercial League
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
903 SIXTH STREET, REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA

Whereas, The increased contribution of the Negro to the moral and material development of his country; The increased proportion he bears to the general population as a whole; The increased demand for greater recognition in determining the future of his country and himself; His undisputed loyalty and patriotism in times of peace as well as in war; His increased fitness to serve at home or abroad; His intense desire to serve in a recognizee capacity move him to give expression to that desire by calling to the attention of those in power or to those who may be seeking positions of trust, his friendly yet firm attitude toward, and his insistent demand for a full recognition of that truest of American principles, Equal opportunity for all men alike;

And Whereas; The life long devotion and unbroken contribution to, and in support of the Republican Party by the Negro, has meant, and still mean so much to that party as a political Factor in gaining and maintaining control of the machinery of Government should secure for him his rightful place in the councils of that party and the Nation; and guarantee to him a just recognition of his services after, as well as before an election;

And Whereas; We believe, that since the fourteen million Negroes in the U.S. are, first of all, a laboring people there should be a Negro Assistant in the Labor Department of the U.S. through whom they could be heard in matters so vital to them; and we believe also, that the Register of the Treasury, a position long held by Negroes, should be restored to them in keeping with a time honored custom; and that Diplomatic posts in Negro Republics or in countries where Negroes are in control, can and should be filled by Negroes as an acknowledgment of their part in the make up of their country.

Now Therefore be it Resolved,

1st, That we, the Negroes of Southern California, in convention assembled at San Bernardino, this 6th, Day of Feb'y A.D. 1932. hereby go on record as being favor of the appointment of Negroes to the positions mentioned above and pledge ourselves to work with, and in support of that man or men party or parties, who will work wholeheartedly and unceasingly with us to secure those ends. To give our support to such and to such only.

2nd, That we recognize and assume, no position, commanding or demanding, or make any claim to anything because we are Negroes, but simply as of right and in self-defense because we are Men. And we do not and can not continue to subscribe to any system that savors of taxation without representation without registering our solemn protest.

3rd, We further pledge ourselves to work earnestly and independently, with any group or party of men who will openly co-operate with us in breaking down the unAmerican system of inequality and injustice, and in destroying that hated and accursed institution of restriction and exclusion that is so effectually working a division of the people.

4th, That direct contact be made with all Negroes in Calif., and else wher to join us in this fight that is at once reasonable, fair and just. And he hereby manifest our determination to pursue this fight to victory.

5th, That a copy of these resolutions along with a letter of inquiry be forwarded to each candidates seeking election to any national office and his position ascertained before nay election is held in which his or her interests may be involved.

Southern Counties
Economic, Political and Commercial League
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
903 SIXTH STREET, REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA

Whereas, The awful economic crisis that gripped the world during the past twelve months and that still impends, has called forth the greatest effort on the part of the individuals and governments everywhere, establishing new records of sacrifice and charity toward men, creating newer and higher standards of human relationships, awakening in men a greater desire for a better understanding than heretofore obtained; And whereas, in the midst of this super-human effort to lift ourselves to higher levels in human relationships, it is commonly reported, and on good authority, that our own government, either by collusion or condoning, is still found at its old game of injustice, unfairness and persecution in that Negroes full-fledged American citizens, are denied an opportunity, granted other American citizens, to earn his bread on a government owned, controlled and supervised job; And Whereas,

This construction, viz: The Hoover Dam, is being constructed by the government with money collected from the taxpayers, of whom the Negroes are a contributing part; authorized by a vote of the American citizenry, intended to benefit American citizens, supervised and controlled by the American Government, a Government founded and maintained by the will of the people; and since we believe all acts of discrimination, whether practiced by the individual or his government, are unfair, unjust, inhuman and un-American. Now therefore be it Resolved; That we, the Negroes of Southern California, in convention assembled, at San Bernardino California, this 6th Day of Feb'y A.D. 1932, hereby denounce the act of denying Negroes an equal opportunity to work on the government constructed job at Hoover Dam, not alone as unfair, unjust and inhuman; but infamous, perfidious and criminal;

Be it resolved further; That we pledge ourselves to use every honorable means at our command, through whatever source possible, to secure an open door for all men alike to work at Hoover Dam or any other work owned, operated, controlled or supervised by the Government. And we hereby call upon our Senators and Representatives to use their weight and influence on our behalf and in the interest of fairness and justice. And not alone in this instance, but in every capacity and at all times.

Resolved, that a committee of three(3) be named at this meeting to make a thorough canvass of the entire situation, as far as it be possible, make contact with all persons seeking office wherein they can be useful in co-operating with us, ascertain their attitude by getting an expression from them, and get any information that can be used for our future guidance and make recommendations to us at our next meeting.

That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded each candidate with whom contact may be made and a copy be filed with the sec'y for future referenc

July 7, 1932.

Mr. William A. Lydgate,
c/o S. P. Weston, Inc.,
420 Lexington Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of July 6th, addressed to the "Department of Labor" has been referred to the Conciliation Service for attention.

This Department does not have any compilations or estimates as to the "average wages" paid to Negro labor in the States designated by you. Where union labor wage scales are in effect it is the presumption, of course, that such scales are applicable to all labor; nor would it be possible, I am sure, to obtain any average as to agricultural labor. Wages vary, of course, according to locality, but this Department could not undertake to compile the varying wages for the various localities, all of which would be subject to the particular agreement or understanding between employers and workers.

Yours very truly,

H. L. Kerwin,
Director of Conciliation.

KFP

"
K.P.
"

S. P. WESTON, INC.

1822-1823 GRAYBAR BUILDING

420 LEXINGTON AVENUE

NEWSPAPER ENGINEERING
PRODUCTION, OPERATION
ANALYTICAL STUDIES
REPORTS, VALUATIONS

NEW YORK July 6, 1932

Office of the Dept. of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:


In making a study of the South we have found it necessary to obtain information as to the average wage scale of negro labor, that is, the average agricultural wage, and the average industrial or manufacturing wage, and how those averages differ from the averages for white labor.

The states we have in mind are: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. Is there any material available on those states, both individually and collectively, which would throw light on the question outlined above? We are interested in the ten-year period 1920-1930 particularly.

We would be most pleased to receive whatever material you have on the subject, and will be glad to meet any expenses incurred.

Very truly yours,

S. P. Weston Inc.



William A. Lydgate

William A. Lydgate

WAL:wl

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
WASHINGTON

102
April 7, 1933.

The Conciliation Service,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

✓
A recent communication received by this Bureau includes a request for certain information or publications issued by your office. I have noted below the nature of the request and the name and address of the writer, who has been advised that this part of the communication has been referred to your office.

Very respectfully,

W. M. Stewart

Director.

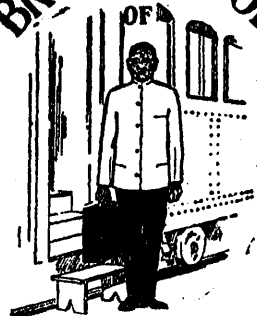
Mr. Whitney M. Young,
Dean of Vocation,
Lincoln Institute,
Lincoln Ridge, Kentucky. - Desires information relating to
the negro in business or vocation and achievements of
negroes along classical lines.

Apr. 7, 1933. He has been furnished with the information he
desires (via Negro Business Specialist)
J. A. Jackson, Dept. of Commerce.

See

K.F.P.

BROTHERHOOD



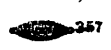
SLEEPING CAR PORTERS

John Kerwin Please Oppose
The Pullman Porters Injunction Fund

To Disestablish Company Union and Yellow Dog Contract

Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor

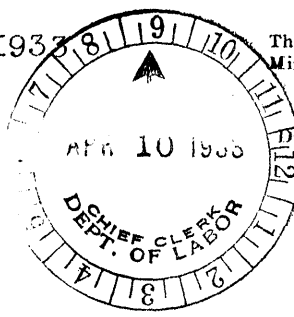
239 WEST 136 STREET, NEW YORK CITY



See table reply on

Date conference

April 7 - 1933



COMMITTEE

The Rev. WM. LLOYD IMES
Minister St. James' Presbyterian
Church—New York

Dr. JEROME DAVIS
Divinity School—Yale Univ.

*Secretary's
signature
& etc. J*

Madam Secretary Frances E. Perkins
United States Department Of Labor
Washington, D.C.

Dear Madam Secretary:

Following instructions given me I wrote you a letter several days ago requesting that Mr. A. Philip Randolph, President of the Brotherhood Of Sleeping Car Porters be included among the labor representatives to meet in a conference called by you March 31.

The reasons set forth by the brotherhood are that the twelve million or more Negroes in the United States represent labor, that the Brotherhood Of Sleeping Car Porters constitute the largest single unit of organized Negroes affiliated with the American Federation Of Labor and that any conference calculated to restore the confidence and cooperation of the laboring classes in the rehabilitation program of the Federal government could not be complete or smack of a thorough sense of fair-play if it did not include the Negro.

To the amazement and sad disappointment of the members of this organization the request was utterly ignored. Up to this writing no reply has been received, the conference held and the hopes, yearnings and aspirations of the Negro population denied an opportunity to voice its opinion by labor minded leaders of the race who are free from the influence of capitalists, in matters vitally affecting the group in particular and labor in general.

For eight years this organization has made repeated appeals to the various tribunals of the government charged with the responsibility to enforce laws affecting labor. In the face of a law passed Sept. 5-6, 1916 known as the Adamson Eight Hour Act or the 240 hour work month, the Pullman Company callously, deliberately and defiantly ignores and evades it by compelling its porters and maids to work on a basis of 11,000 miles of railroad a month which is equivalent to 440 hours work a month.

While the United States Senate was discussing the passage of the 30 hour work week yesterday, the Pullman Company was quite busy furloughing its porters in various districts. By increasing their hours of work and decreasing the rest or lay-over period of these underpaid, overworked and trained to be professional mendicants of the traveling public, the Pullman Company has found it easy to add

Make all checks payable to Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters
-over-

to the unemployment problem more than 4000 Negroes with wives and little children dependent on them for support.

I repeat that no tribunal charged with the responsibility to correct the many injustices heaped upon porters and maids by the Pullman Company seems willing to enforce any law or conduct an investigation to determine why the Railroad Labor law is obeyed by all carriers in its relation to all railroad employees except the Pullman porters and maids.

The Brotherhood Of Sleeping Car Porters was started as a revolt against the Employee Representation Plan, a Company Union forced upon the porters and maids by means of a species of intimidation and coercion. This plan is a series of committees that attempt to adjust all grievances and mal-adjustments that arise between the Company's officials and the porters and maids in the operation of Pullman cars upon the railroad.

These committees, known as Grievance Committees, are composed of equal numbers of porters and maids as there are officials of the Pullman Company. A notorious fact is that upon each committee sits the superintendent who has the power to hire and fire the porter and may fire the porter representatives of the said Grievance Committees, the latter paid added compensation for their services by the company which I respectfully submit is a subtle species of intimidation in itself.

The Railway Labor Act specifically states that the employees must have the freedom to choose representatives of their own without influence, interference or coercion by the management and the rules governing the Employee Representation Plan reads that the representatives must be Pullman Porters with at least two years standing in the service. This is a flagrant violation of the law.

Moreover, now comes the Norris-La Guardia law enacted March 23-1932 which states that it is against the public policy of the United States to operate a company union and that all contracts signed shall be held unenforcable by law.

Despite this fact the Pullman Company continues to hold annual elections of its Employee Representation Plan, and called a number of unauthorized porters to Chicago recently who signed contracts which resulted in a decrease in the wages of the employees without their knowledge or consent.

This organization has reported promptly every act of injustice to the United States Mediation Board, the Department Of Labor, members of Congress and other governmental agencies but despite all the evidence submitted and the facts too bold and amazing for words we are still faced with the problem of choosing the more expensive course to air out the many outrages in a Federal Court.

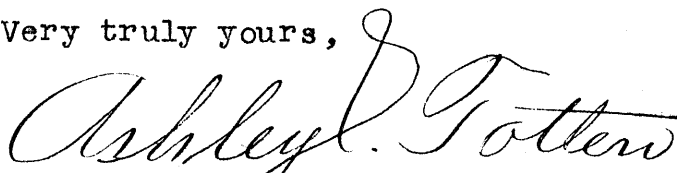
The Brotherhood Of Sleeping Car Porters is interested in the program of the present administration. It looks with great promise to every gesture calculated to reckon with unfair and dishonest corporations and big financiers in order that the people of the United States might be relieved from misery and the pangs of hunger.

In that the fabulously rich Pullman Company seems too powerful to be included in the investigations it might be timely for me to mention that the Pullman Porters and Maids constitute the largest single unit of Negro workers in the United States out of whose sweat the company has reaped great profits and also through years of an uninterrupted scheme to pay such wages which compels them to look to the traveling public for support.

Now that the irregular and inadequate "tips" have almost faded out of existence, that Filipinos and Japanese are being used to displace Negroes, that every conceivable scheme is in practice to destroy the usefulness of their union, is the race to be further driven into a state of impotency because justice to these classes of workers is so unbearably slow if not denied.

With cordial best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,



Ashley L. Totten
National Secretary- Treasurer

D. H. C.

April 22, 1933.

Mr. Ashley L. Totten,
National Secretary-Treasurer,
The Pullman Porters' Injunction Fund,
239 West 136th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of April 7th and note what you say concerning the Brotherhood of Sleeping-Car Porters, Mr. A. Philip Randolph, President, and your viewpoint concerning the varied labor situations in which your organization and the porters' Brotherhood are interested.

First, let me say to you that it was physically impractical at the time to have endeavored to have present at the conference of March 31st representation from all of the many groups which desired to take part in the conference. Consequently, it was our plan to have later conferences, following this preliminary meeting. It follows, therefore, that your request will not be overlooked when these later deliberations are undertaken.

I have been informed that the requests of the Brotherhood of Sleeping-Car Porters for an investigation as to wages, tips, hours, etc., have been under active consideration by the Department for some time past, notwithstanding the fact that, of course, the jurisdiction of the Department in connection with transportation employees is limited. This, together with the fact that there are apparently two organizations of Pullman porters, each of which claims to have enrolled the majority of the porters, makes it even more difficult to secure definite information helpful to all of the porters of both groups.

However, I am advised that as far back as January 24, 1929, Commissioner Ethelbert Stewart, of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of this Department, tendered the advice and assistance of the Department in the making of a preliminary survey of wages and working conditions affecting Pullman porters, and that the Commissioner proposed a plan which Mr. Randolph's organization has never accepted. It would seem to me that, as Mr. Randolph's earlier letters and conferences indicated, a preliminary survey along the lines proposed would have developed certain facts and conditions

necessary to a thorough understanding of the complaints.

The subject-matter was further discussed in correspondence with the Department last Autumn, and in November, 1932, Mr. Randolph advised the Conciliation Service that --

"I and my associates will come to Washington to go over the subject-matter of the survey of working conditions and wages of Pullman porters sometime in the near future."

The matter has rested at that point since then.

Would it not be possible for you and your associates to confer with the Acting Commissioner of Labor Statistics with a view to developing a plan of cooperation along the lines of Commissioner Stewart's proposed survey?

Yours very truly,

4/29/33
Secretary.

(Signed) Frances Perkins

HRK
✓

7102
May 5, 1933.

Mr. A. Phillip Randolph,
National President, Brotherhood of Sleeping-Car Porters,
239 West 136th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 29th with further reference to previous correspondence with Mr. Totten and yourself concerning the proposed inquiry as to working conditions and wages of Pullman porters.

Since the receipt of your letter, the matter has again been taken up with Mr. Baldwin, Acting Commissioner of Labor Statistics, who will be glad to confer with you at any time convenient to you, and, if possible, work out a plan of procedure along the lines proposed by Commissioner Stewart.

Copy of Senator Dill's address is acknowledged with thanks.

Yours very truly,